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**Statistical Analysis Report**

**March 2000**

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**Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study  
(BPS:96/98)**

**Descriptive Summary of 1995–96  
Beginning Postsecondary  
Students: Three Years Later**

**With an Essay on Students Who Start at  
Less-Than-4-Year Institutions**

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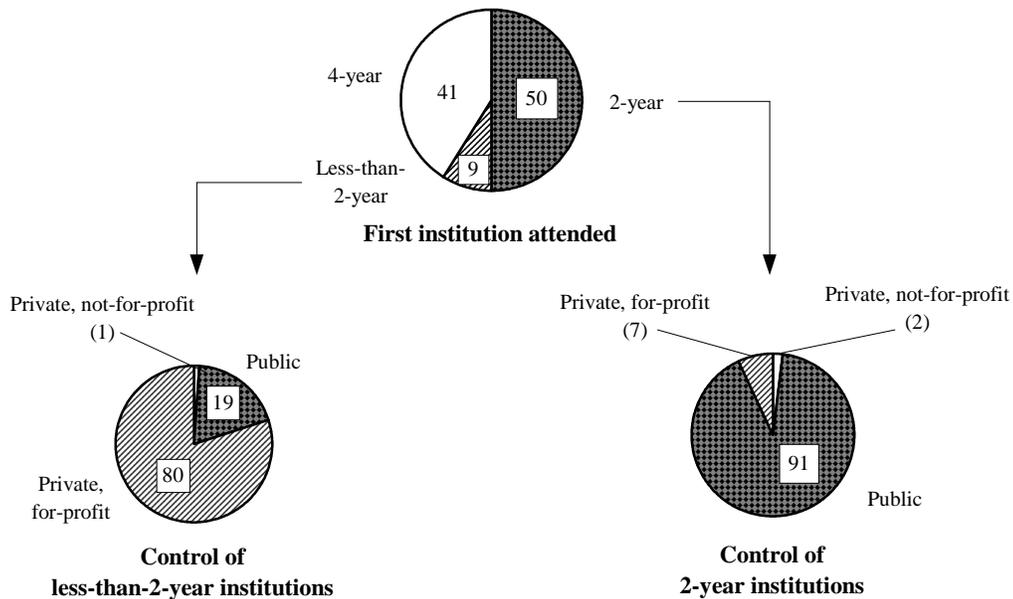
# Executive Summary

Of the roughly 3 million students who first enrolled in postsecondary education in 1995–96, about 40 percent began in 4-year institutions (usually in bachelor’s degree programs), but the majority began at less-than-4-year institutions, including one-half at 2-year institutions and about 10 percent at less-than-2-year institutions (figure A). Less-than-2-year institutions offer only vocational certificate programs that can be completed anywhere from a few months to just under two years. Two-year institutions offer both certificates and associate’s degrees that require

two to three years of full-time enrollment. The students who started at these less-than-4-year institutions in 1995–96 could have completed a certificate or associate’s degree program by 1998, while those in 4-year bachelor’s degree programs would normally just be completing their junior year of college.

The subject of this report is the persistence and degree attainment after three years of the students who began postsecondary education in 1995–96, with a focus on those who started in less-than-4-

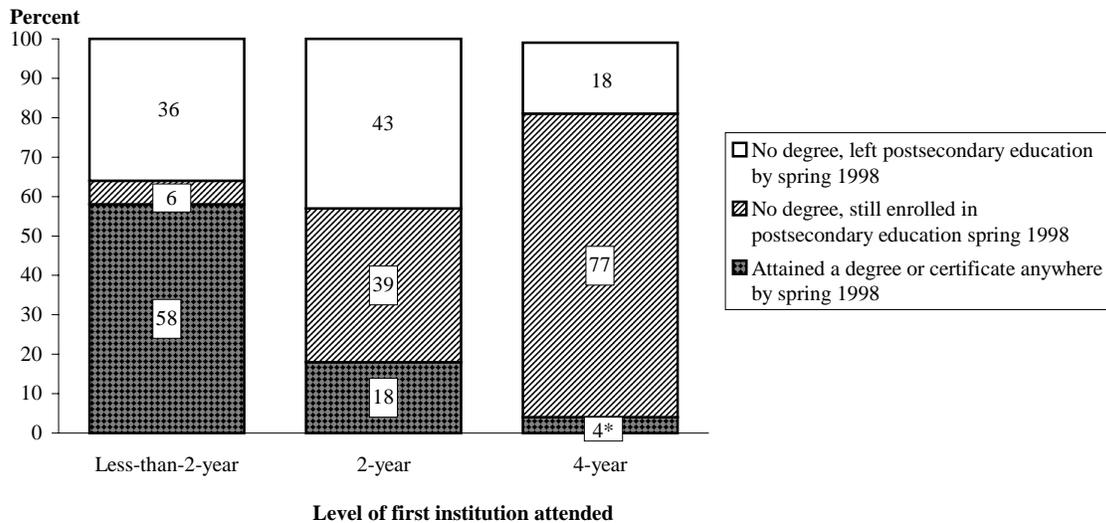
**Figure A—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to level of institution first attended and among those in less-than-4-year institutions, the percentage distribution according to institution control**



NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Figure B—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students after three years according to enrollment status and attainment (anywhere), by level of first institution attended**



\*One percent bachelor's degree; 3 percent associate's and certificates.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Because of a small difference in the number of missing values at less-than-2-year institutions, the 6 percent still enrolled is slightly lower than in table 2. The term "degree" includes certificates.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

year institutions. *Attainment* means that the student completed a program and earned a degree, defined broadly as including certificates. *Persistence* refers to all those who continued to be enrolled until they completed a program, and therefore includes those who attained a degree. Students who transferred from their original institution and continued to be enrolled or completed a program elsewhere have also persisted.

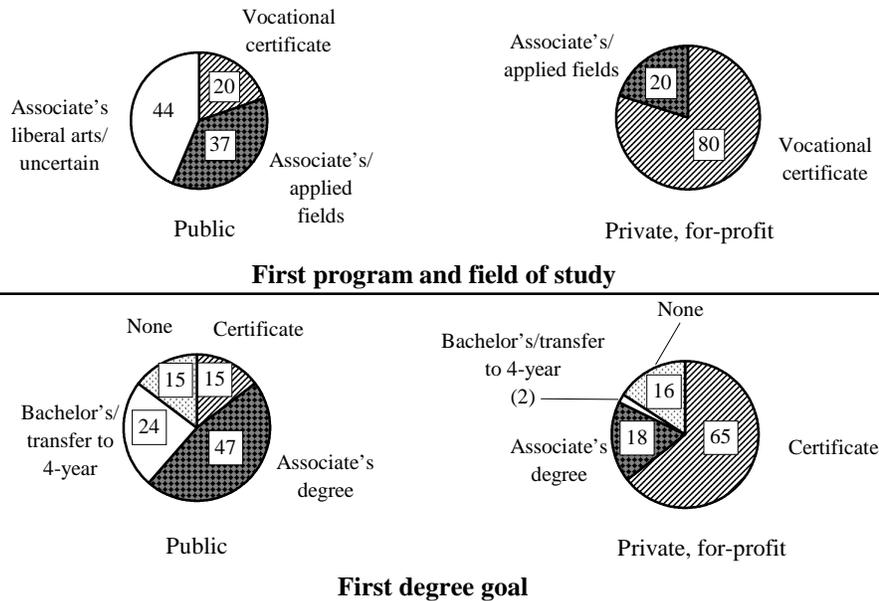
Figure B displays information about the persistence and attainment three years after students first enrolled in 1995–96. Each institution sector is shown separately. Among those who started in 4-year institutions, 18 percent had left postsecondary education without a degree, about three-fourths were still enrolled without a degree,

and a small percentage had attained a degree (mostly certificates and associate's). That is, about 80 percent had persisted, but not necessarily at the institution where they first started.<sup>1</sup> Among those who started at 2-year and at less-than-2-year institutions, about 40 percent had left postsecondary education within three years. The majority of those who started at less-than-2-year institutions had attained a certificate or degree (58 percent), compared with 18 percent of those who started at 2-year institutions.

As shown in figure A above, most of the beginning students who enrolled in the 2-year sector (91 percent) attended *public* institutions, usually community colleges. Most of those in the

<sup>1</sup>Twenty percent of the freshmen transferred out of their initial 4-year institution.

**Figure C—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who first enrolled in public and private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions, by first program and field of study and by first degree goal**



NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

less-than-2-year sector (80 percent) attended *private, for-profit* institutions (also known as proprietary or private career schools). The community colleges have a broad range of missions, from job training to offering lower division courses for students who want to transfer to 4-year institutions. The private, for-profit institutions generally only offer programs that prepare students for specific occupations.

The rest of the essay will focus on the less-than-4-year institutions, comparing the students who started at public with those who started at private, for-profit institutions in terms of their degree programs, goals, and enrollment patterns. The analysis differentiates between students in certificate and associate's degree programs and

further separates students in associate's degree programs into applied and liberal arts fields. One of the main questions addressed is why students who begin at less-than-4-year public institutions have lower rates of attainment than those who begin at private, for-profit institutions.<sup>2</sup>

## Programs, Degree Goals, and Purpose

In order to make a meaningful comparison between students who begin their postsecondary education at less-than-4-year public and private, for-profit institutions, it is important to examine

<sup>2</sup>The analysis excludes about 2 percent of the students who are in less-than-4-year private, not-for-profit institutions (primarily junior colleges).

the types of programs in which students enroll and further why they have enrolled. Figure C illustrates how students in less-than-4-year public and private, for-profit institutions were distributed with respect to both their program and field of study and their reported degree goals.

Private, for-profit institutions primarily offer short-term programs leading to vocational certificates. Accordingly, four-fifths of these students were enrolled in certificate programs, primarily in cosmetology, health assistance, secretarial, and mechanical trades. The remaining one-fifth were enrolled in applied associate's degree programs such as business, allied health technicians, and engineering technology. Students beginning in public less-than-4-year institutions, on the other hand, were more likely to be enrolled in associate's degree programs than in vocational certificate programs. About 40 percent were in applied associate's degree programs, and another 40 percent were either liberal arts majors or had not declared a major.<sup>3</sup>

An examination of beginning students' degree goals at the institution where they start clarifies their actual intentions with respect to their current enrollment. Unlike most private, for-profit institutions, one of the missions of public 2-year institutions is to provide a means for students working toward a bachelor's degree to complete their lower division requirements and transfer to a 4-year institution. Students who transfer are not required to have earned an associate's degree, but if they successfully transfer, they have achieved their goal for that institution.

Students in public institutions primarily reported goals of earning an associate's degree (47 percent) or transferring to a 4-year college without

a degree (24 percent). By contrast, students in private, for-profit institutions indicated goals of obtaining a vocational certificate (65 percent) or an associate's degree (18 percent), while few indicated any transfer intentions (2 percent). In both the public and the private, for-profit sectors, approximately the same percentage reported having no degree goal (15 and 16 percent, respectively). That is, they were probably enrolled to advance their occupational skills or for their own personal enrichment.

When students in less-than-4-year institutions were asked to report their primary reason for enrolling (separate from their degree goals), two-thirds of those in private, for-profit institutions indicated that they wanted to gain job skills, compared with one-quarter of those in public institutions. Correspondingly, about one-third of students in public less-than-4-year institutions reported plans to transfer to a 4-year college, compared with only 2 percent of those in private, for-profit institutions.

Taking into account both students' degree goals and their primary purpose for enrolling, it is apparent that those enrolled in the private, for-profit sector would be able to fulfill their intentions of earning a certificate or an associate's degree and, in the process, enhance their job skills all in the same institution. Students in the public sector, on the other hand, had less of an immediate occupational focus and often planned to transfer to a 4-year college without earning an associate's degree.

## **Persistence and Attainment of Students at Less-Than-4-Year Institutions**

A major difference between certificate and associate's degree programs is the time it takes to

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<sup>3</sup>About one-third of the liberal arts/uncertain group had not declared majors.

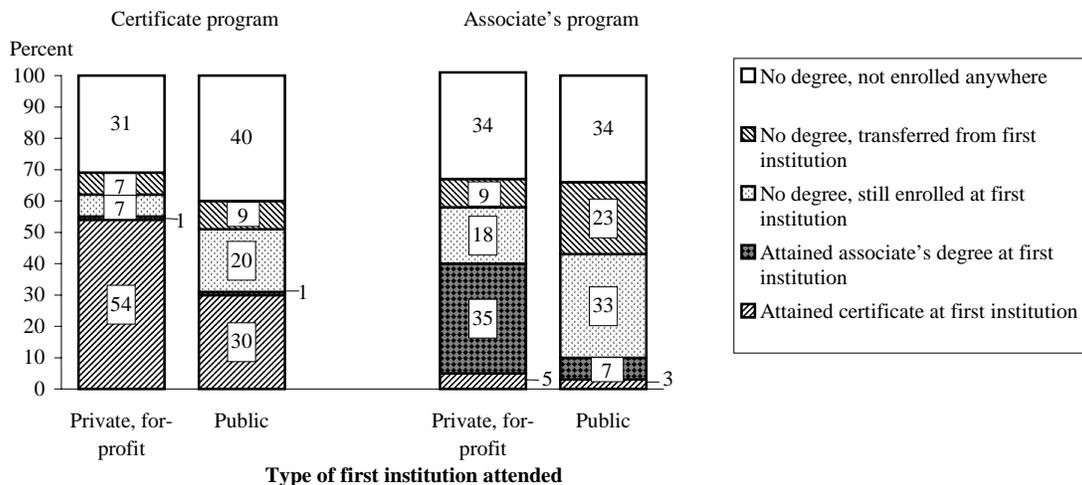
complete them. A vocational certificate program is often completed in about one year, while associate's degrees take at least two years to complete. Most of the beginning students at private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions were enrolled in short-term certificate programs (80 percent), while most of those in public institutions were enrolled in longer term associate's degree programs (81 percent).

Not only were the beginning students in the private, for-profit institutions primarily enrolled in shorter programs, but most of them (about three-fourths) were full-time students during their entire enrollment. At the public institutions, about one-half of the beginning students started their enrollment full time, but just one-third continued to attend full time as long as they were enrolled. Moreover, about one-fourth of those in the public institutions were always enrolled part time, compared with about one-tenth in the private, for-profit institutions.

Full-time students are obviously able to progress through a program more quickly than part-time students. Since most of the students starting in the private, for-profit sector were in shorter programs *and* attended full time as long as they were enrolled, it might be expected that they would have higher rates of degree attainment after three years than those who started at the public less-than-4-year institutions, where most of the students were in longer programs and less likely to attend full time.

Comparing the students in the two sectors who began in vocational certificate programs and those who began in associate's degree programs controls for the effect of the difference in the length of these programs on attainment rates. The percentages displayed in figure D differentiate students who were still enrolled at the same institution from those who transferred and are limited to those who attained a degree at the first institution attended.

**Figure D—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in private, for-profit and in public less-than-4-year institutions, by enrollment status and attainment at the first institution attended after three years**



NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. The term "degree" includes certificates.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

The differences in attainment rates at public and private, for-profit institutions are still evident within certificate and associate's degree programs. About one-half (54 percent) of those who began in certificate programs at private, for-profit institutions attained a certificate at the first institution attended, compared with 30 percent of those who began at public institutions. The percentage of beginning students in associate's degree programs who attained associate's degrees at the first institution was also higher at the private, for-profit institutions than at the public institutions (35 percent compared with 7 percent).

There was no difference between sectors in the percentage of those in associate's degree programs who left postsecondary education from the first institution without a degree (34 percent). However, as might be expected from the difference in degree goals examined earlier, the percentage of those in associate's degree programs who left the first institution attended to transfer elsewhere was higher at the public than at the private, for-profit institutions (23 percent compared with 9 percent).

The difference in the attainment rates of beginning students in the two sectors appears to be related to the much higher percentage of full-time students in the private, for-profit institutions. In addition, the higher degree attainment rates at the for-profit institutions may be related to their term structure. Many for-profit institutions offer programs that allow continuous enrollment without regular term structures or summer vacations. This is reflected in the time it took students to attain degrees or certificates. Those full-time students who completed certificates at private, for-profit institutions finished in an average of 12 months, while those who completed certificates at public institutions required an average of 16 months. Similarly, those who

completed an associate's degree at public institutions took an average of 25 months, 3 months longer than those who received an associate's degree at private, for-profit institutions by 1998.

## **Conclusions**

Many of the differences in the enrollment experiences of beginning students at private, for-profit and at public less-than-4-year institutions reflect the differences in the type of program in which they were enrolled. Eighty percent of the students in the private, for-profit institutions began in vocational certificate programs, while about eighty percent of the students in the public institutions began in associate's degree programs, which take longer to complete. Nevertheless, the attainment rates for both vocational certificates and associate's degrees were much higher for students who began in private, for-profit institutions.

There were also distinct differences in degree goals, reasons for enrolling, and attendance patterns between students in the two sectors that contribute to explaining some of the attainment differences. Compared with students in the public sector, those in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions:

- were more likely to focus on gaining job skills;
- had degree goals specific to the programs offered at the first institution attended and were less likely to have intentions of transferring to a 4-year college;
- were more likely to attend full time for the duration of their enrollment; and
- completed their certificates or associate's degree programs in a shorter time.

## Foreword

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This report provides a description of the data collected in the first follow-up of the 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS:96/98). The study is based on a sample of students who began their postsecondary education in 1995–96 and were initially interviewed in 1996 as part of the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:96). These first-time beginning students were interviewed again in mid-1998, about three years after they had started their postsecondary education. A major purpose of the BPS studies is to provide information about the persistence of beginning students in postsecondary education and their attainment of any certificates or degrees at different types of institutions.

Because most students who began in 1995–96 would not have been enrolled long enough to complete a bachelor's degree at the time of the follow-up survey in 1998, the essay of the report focuses on the persistence and attainment of students enrolled in programs leading to associate's degrees and vocational certificates at less-than-4-year institutions. In particular, the analysis compares the outcomes of students in public institutions with those in private, for-profit institutions three years after they first enrolled.

The essay is followed by a compendium of supplemental tables detailing persistence and attainment by various types of institutions. It also contains summary findings and tables about the characteristics of beginning students, with a particular emphasis on employment.

The estimates presented in the report (mostly percentages) were produced using the NCES Data Analysis System (DAS) for the BPS:96/98 survey. The DAS is a microcomputer application that allows users to specify and generate their own tables. The DAS produces design-adjusted standard errors necessary for testing the statistical significance of differences shown in the tables. For more information regarding the DAS, readers should consult appendix B of this report.

## Acknowledgments

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The data described in this report represent over six years of collaborative effort between MPR Associates and the Education Surveys Program at the Research Triangle Institute. We are especially grateful to the Program Director, John Riccobono, as well as Jennifer Wine, Daniel Pratt, Tim Gabel, and Roy Whitmore for their good-natured cooperation and hard work in designing and producing the NPSAS:96 and BPS:96/98 studies. At MPR Associates, Michael Clune deserves all the credit for specifying and organizing the analytic variables and for producing a high-quality public release data file for BPS:96/96. Robert Fitzgerald, Vishant Shah, and Shirley He assisted in the analytic work on the report. Andrea Livingston edited the report, Barbara Kridl coordinated its production, Francesca Tussing cheerfully formatted the many revisions of the text, tables, and graphics, and Karyn Madden and Helen Jang proofread and assembled the final document.

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# STUDENTS WHO START AT LESS-THAN-4-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

## Introduction

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In 1995–96, approximately 3 million students began their postsecondary education for the first time. A sample of these first-time beginning students was chosen to be interviewed in 1996 as part of the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:96), and then interviewed again three years later during mid-1998 in the first follow-up of the Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS:96/98).<sup>1</sup> A complete description of these beginning students during their first year in postsecondary education is available in another report.<sup>2</sup> The current report provides a descriptive summary of their educational experience after three years, with a special emphasis on their persistence in postsecondary education and their attainment of any degrees or certificates.

About two-fifths of the students beginning in 1995–96 enrolled in 4-year colleges and universities, while three-fifths enrolled in less-than-4-year institutions that did not offer a bachelor's degree (figure 1). One-half of all beginning students attended 2-year institutions and about 9 percent attended less-than-2-year institutions. Almost all beginning students in the 2-year sector attended public institutions (91 percent), which are usually called community colleges. Most of those in the less-than-2-year sector (80 percent) attended private, for-profit institutions, which are also known as private career or proprietary schools.

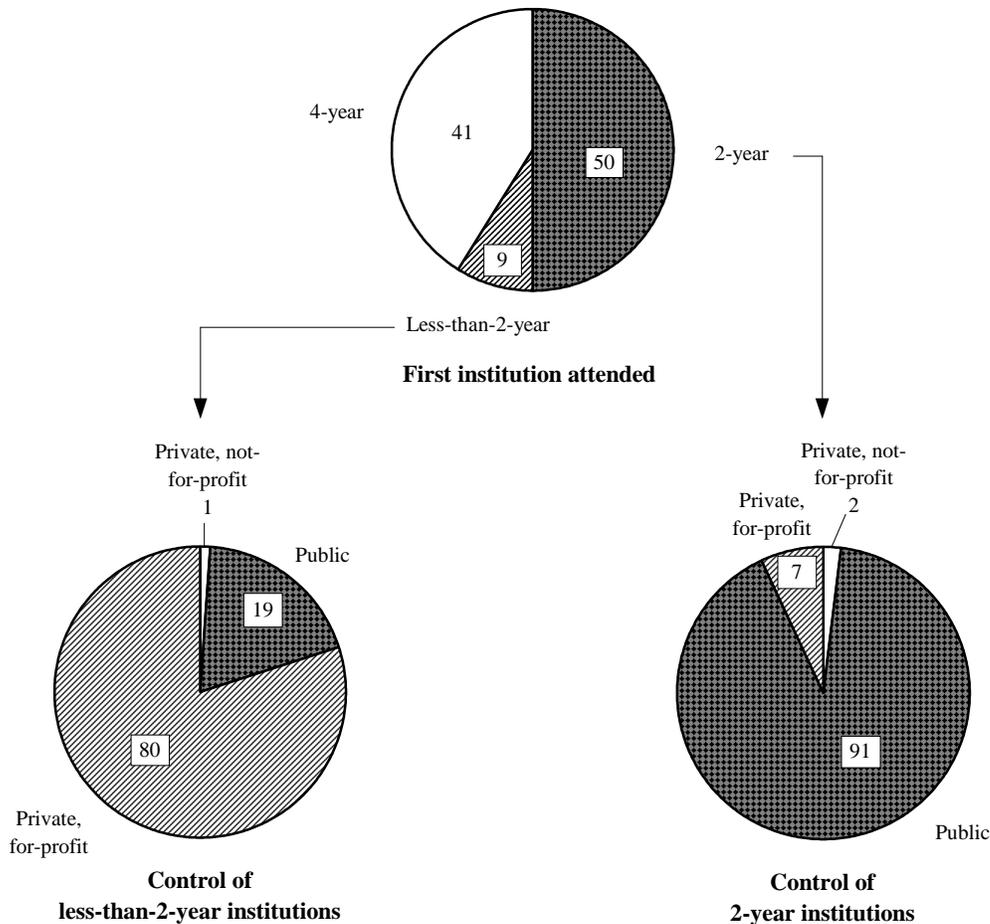
Less-than-4-year institutions offer vocational certificate programs and associate's degree programs in the liberal arts and in applied fields. The certificate programs are relatively short and can usually be completed in about one year of full-time enrollment, while the associate's degree programs require two to three years. Therefore, the students who began at less-than-4-year institutions in 1995–96 could have completed their programs by the time of the first follow-up survey in 1998, while those who started in bachelor's degree programs at 4-year institutions would normally just be completing their junior year of college.

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<sup>1</sup>J. Wine et al., *Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study First Follow-up 1996–98, Methodology Report* (NCES 2000–157) (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2000).

<sup>2</sup>L. Kojaku and A.M. Nuñez, *Descriptive Summary of 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students, With Profiles of Students Entering 2- and 4-Year Institutions* (NCES 1999–030) (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1998).

**Figure 1—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to level of institution first attended and among those in less-than-4-year institutions, the percentage distribution according to institution control**



NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

The essay in this report begins with a comparison of the experience of students who began in 4-year, 2-year, and less-than-2-year institutions, examining the three-year rates of degree attainment, institutional retention, and postsecondary persistence. *Attainment* means that the student completed a postsecondary program and received a credential, either a certificate in a vocational field, an associate’s degree, or a bachelor’s degree. Institutional *retention* refers to those beginning students who remained at the same institution where they started until they completed a program. Three-year retention rates include the percentage of beginners who had attained a degree at their original institution as well as those who continued to be enrolled there after three

years. Student *persistence* is a broader concept. It refers to those students who have continued anywhere in postsecondary education, including those who had transferred out of their original institution. Three-year persistence rates include the percentage of beginners who had attained a degree at any institution in three years and those who were still enrolled at any postsecondary institution.

The rest of this essay focuses on the patterns of persistence and attainment of those students who began at less-than-4-year institutions in 1995–96, and some of the employment outcomes of both those who completed a program within three years and those who did not. The emphasis is on the differences between students who began their postsecondary education in certificate and associate’s degree programs, examining the characteristics of students at public and at private, for-profit institutions separately.<sup>3</sup> One of the issues examined is why beginning students at public institutions have lower rates of attainment than those beginning in private, for-profit institutions.

This report expands and refines the analysis of a previous study of the five-year persistence of students who began postsecondary education in 1989–90 (BPS:90/94).<sup>4</sup> That study examined persistence and attainment rates after five years, with a focus on the differences by the level of the institution at which the students began. The previous analysis showed that those who began at less-than-2-year institutions were more likely to be older and nontraditional than those who began at 2-year institutions. Although nontraditional students generally had a greater risk of not persisting, those who began at less-than-2-year institutions had higher rates of attainment than those who began at 2-year institutions.

In the essay and in the supplemental tables of this report, the data are aggregated to focus more on the difference between students in public and in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions. There is also an emphasis on the type of degree program, degree goals, and primary purpose for enrolling as indicated by the students in the interviews for the BPS:96/98 survey. Although certificates of completion and diplomas in vocational programs may not meet the strict definition of “degrees,” in this report the terms “degrees,” “degree programs,” and “degree goals” are used as generic terms that include any type of postsecondary course of study and any type of credential that certifies the completion of a postsecondary education program.

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<sup>3</sup>Students at private, not-for-profit institutions (primarily junior colleges) represented about 2 percent of the beginning student enrollments at less-than-4-year institutions and will not be analyzed separately. They are included in the essay table totals, however, and are shown separately in the supplemental tables.

<sup>4</sup>L. Berkner, S. Cuccarro-Alamin, and A. McCormick, *Descriptive Summary of 1989–90 Beginning Postsecondary Students: Five Years Later, With an Essay on Postsecondary Persistence and Attainment* (NCES 96–155) (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1996).

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## Retention, Persistence, and Attainment After Three Years

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The length of time that is normally required to complete a program at a postsecondary institution is related to the level of the degrees offered there and the type of the program in which the student is enrolled. Less-than-2-year institutions only offer vocational certificate programs that can often be completed in about one year. Two-year institutions (primarily community colleges) usually offer both short-term certificate programs and associate's degree programs that generally require at least two years of full-time enrollment. Four-year institutions mainly offer bachelor's degree programs that can be completed in four years, but some also offer certificate and associate's degree programs that can be completed in less time.

The actual length of time that students take to complete any program also depends on whether they are enrolled as full-time students or whether they progress more slowly because they are enrolled part time. Most of the freshmen in bachelor's degree programs at 4-year colleges and universities were enrolled full time when they began, and the majority of them continued to be enrolled full time for three years.<sup>5</sup> The majority (about three-fourths) of beginners in vocational certificate programs at less-than-2-year institutions were also full-time students during their entire program.<sup>6</sup> At the 2-year institutions, however, beginners were less likely to be enrolled full time. At the community colleges, for example, about one-half of the beginners were enrolled full time during their first term, and about one-third continued to attend full time as long as they were enrolled.<sup>7</sup>

The students who began postsecondary education in 1995–96 could have attained certificates and associate's degrees by the spring of 1998, but most would not have been enrolled long enough to complete a bachelor's degree program. Those who did complete a program and received a certificate or degree as well as those who were still enrolled in 1998 *persisted* in postsecondary education. If they completed the program at the institution where they first started or if they continued to be enrolled there without having attained a credential, they were *retained* by the institution.

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<sup>5</sup>Ninety percent began as full-time students in 1995–96, and 75 percent were always enrolled full time while they persisted. See U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS: 96/98), Data Analysis System.

<sup>6</sup>Table 6 below.

<sup>7</sup>Table 6 below. The small proportion of 2-year students at private, for-profit institutions was predominantly full time, however.

The difference between persistence and retention is in the way transfers are regarded. *Retention* represents the institutional perspective. Students who transfer to other institutions before completing a degree are usually considered not to have been retained at the original institution. *Persistence* represents the student perspective. Persistence in postsecondary education does not depend on remaining at any particular institution, as long as the student continues to be enrolled somewhere. Institutions usually do not know whether students who do not return have transferred elsewhere. When institutional “dropout rates” are reported, they usually include those students who have left to transfer elsewhere but have in fact continued to persist in postsecondary education at a different institution. The retention rates reported by institutions will therefore understate the actual rates of student persistence and attainment in postsecondary education as a whole.

## **Institutional Retention**

The three-year enrollment experience *at the first institution attended* by the students beginning at 4-year, 2-year, and less-than-2-year institutions in 1995–96 is shown in figure 2. The percentages shown in the figure provide the basis for determining the average retention rates at those types of institutions. Institutional retention rates are usually measured as the sum of those beginning students who have attained a degree at the institution and those who are still enrolled there. Those who are not retained may either have transferred to another institution or left postsecondary education entirely.

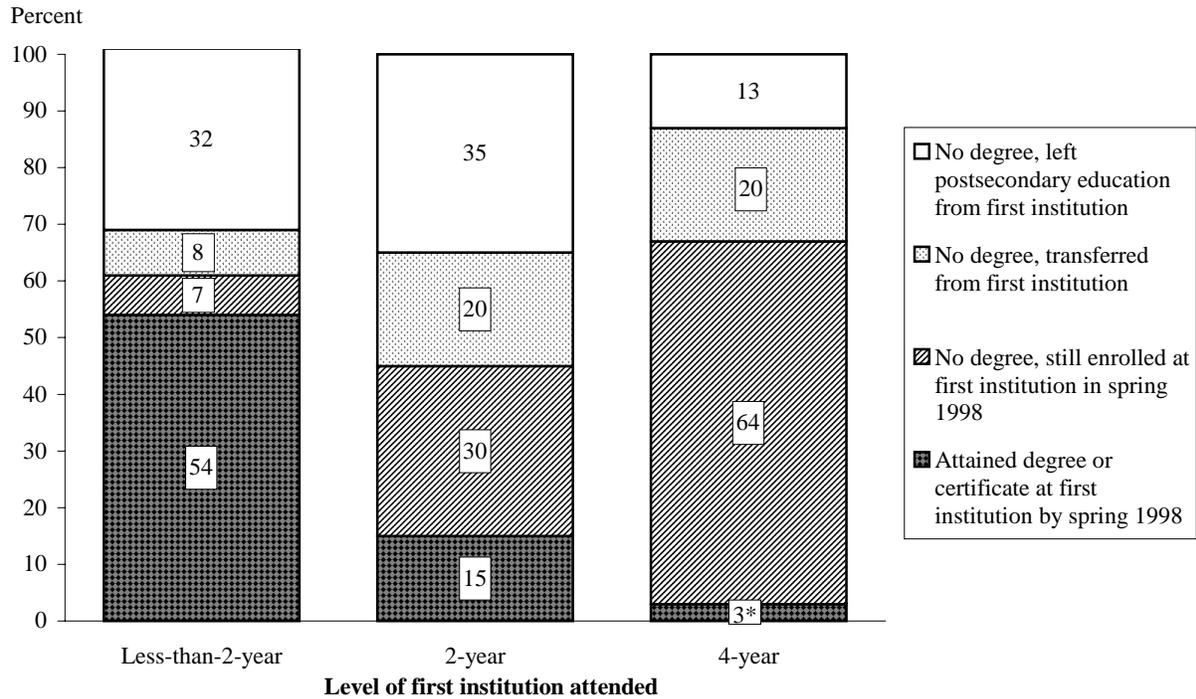
At the 4-year institutions, the retention rate of beginning students after three years was 67 percent (64 percent were still enrolled there, and 3 percent had attained degrees there). That is, within three years, about one-third of the freshmen who began at 4-year colleges and universities in 1995–96 had left the institution where they had started before completing a degree. This does not mean that one-third of the students had “dropped out” of higher education, however. As also shown in figure 2, those beginning students who left a 4-year institution during the first three years were more likely to transfer to another institution (20 percent) than to leave postsecondary education and not re-enroll anywhere else (13 percent).<sup>8</sup>

At the less-than-2-year institutions, the retention rate was 61 percent: 54 percent of the students had earned a certificate at their original institution, and just 7 percent were still enrolled there after three years. In part, this relatively high rate of attainment in three years or less reflects the short duration of the certificate programs offered at these institutions and the high percentage of students enrolled full time. At the 2-year institutions, which offer both short certificate and

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<sup>8</sup>Eventually, about one-fourth of the transfers from 4-year institutions also left postsecondary education without a degree from another institution, so that the total of those who began at 4-year institutions and left postsecondary education without a degree after three years rose from 13 percent to the 18 percent shown in figure 3.

**Figure 2—Retention of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students at the first institution attended after three years, by level of first institution attended**



\*One percent bachelor's degree; 2 percent associate's and certificates.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. The term "degree" includes certificates.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

longer associate's degree programs and where students were more likely to be enrolled part time, a smaller proportion of the beginning students (45 percent) were retained: 15 percent had earned a degree at the institution where they had started, and another 30 percent were still enrolled there without a degree.

At both less-than-2-year and at 2-year institutions, about one-third of the beginners left postsecondary education entirely within three years (32 percent and 35 percent, respectively). The percentage of students who left and then transferred elsewhere was higher at the 2-year institutions, however (20 percent compared with 8 percent). One of the basic functions of 2-year institutions, especially the community colleges, is to provide lower division courses for those who want to transfer to 4-year institutions. Since it is not necessary to earn an associate's degree in order to transfer, it can be argued that institutional retention rates at 2-year institutions should also include those students whose enrollment has allowed them to transfer to a 4-year institution without an associate's degree. Included in the 20 percent who had transferred (anywhere) from

the first 2-year institution without completing a degree were 12 percent who transferred to 4-year institutions.<sup>9</sup> If these students were included, the average three-year retention rate at 2-year institutions could be interpreted as 57 percent (15 percent attained, 30 percent still enrolled, and 12 percent transferred to 4-year institutions).

## **Student Persistence**

Students' persistence is measured in terms of their enrollment experience in postsecondary education as a whole. Students who continue to be enrolled or have earned a degree have persisted, whether or not they stayed at the original institution where they started. During the first three years, about one-fifth of the students beginning in 2-year or in 4-year institutions left the institution where they started before completing a degree, but continued their education by transferring somewhere else.<sup>10</sup> The rates at which students actually persist in postsecondary education are therefore underestimated when only institutional retention rates are reported, without considering transfers. In the rest of this essay, the focus will be on beginning students' persistence and attainment anywhere in postsecondary education during the three years after they first enrolled.

The total three-year persistence and attainment rates (anywhere) of the students who began postsecondary education in 1995–96 are shown by the level of the institution first attended in figure 3. The percentage of students who had earned a degree anywhere within three years also reflects the length of the programs offered at the institutions where they began. By 1998, more than one-half (58 percent) of those who began at less-than-2-year institutions had attained a credential (nearly all certificates); at 2-year institutions, 18 percent had attained either certificates or associate's degrees; and at 4-year institutions, 4 percent had attained some type of credential, including 1 percent who had attained a bachelor's degree within three years.<sup>11</sup>

The three-year persistence rates, which are the sum of the percentage of students who had attained a degree and of the percentage still enrolled anywhere in postsecondary education, are also shown in figure 4. After three years, about 80 percent of the freshmen who started at 4-year colleges and universities in 1995–96 were either still enrolled somewhere in postsecondary education or had earned a credential. Among those who began either at 2-year institutions (primarily community colleges) or at less-than-2-year institutions (primarily private, for-profit), roughly 60 percent had persisted.

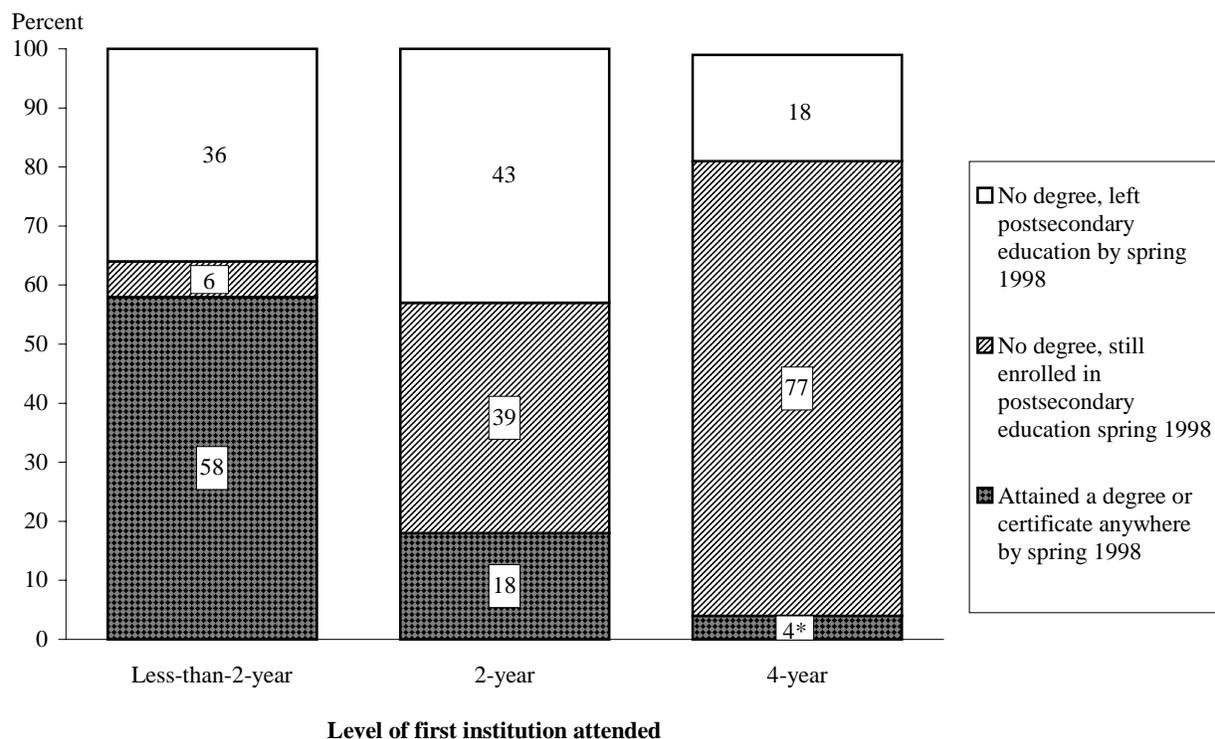
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<sup>9</sup>U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98), Data Analysis System.

<sup>10</sup>Compendium table 3.0a. For more information about transfers, see A. McCormick, *Transfer Behavior Among Beginning Postsecondary Students: 1989–94* (NCES 97–266) (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1997).

<sup>11</sup>Table 2 below shows the types of degrees attained.

**Figure 3—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students after three years according to enrollment status and attainment (anywhere), by level of first institution attended**



\*One percent bachelor's degree; 3 percent associate's and certificates.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Because of a small difference in the number of missing values at less-than-2-year institutions, the 6 percent still enrolled is slightly lower than in figure 2. The term "degree" includes certificates.

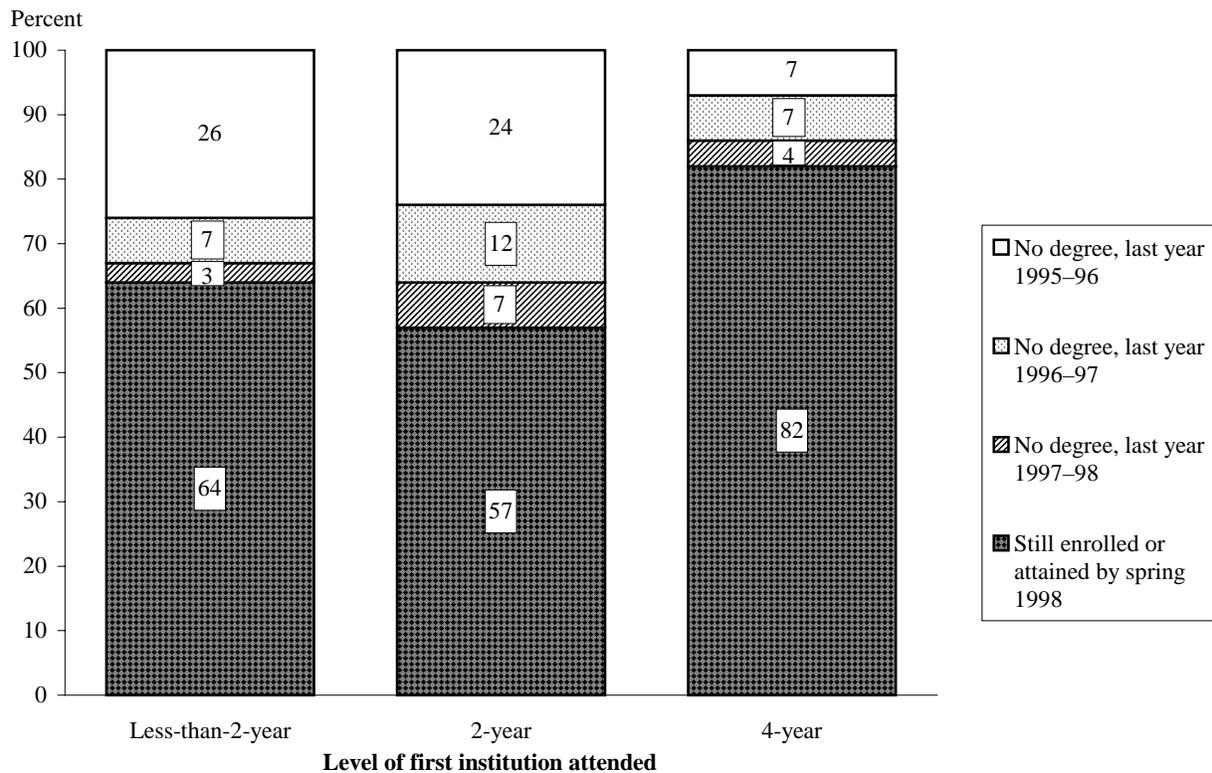
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

Figure 4 also shows the percentage of beginning students who left postsecondary education without a degree during or after each academic year. Among beginning students at 4-year institutions, 7 percent left postsecondary education before their second year, and another 7 percent left before their third year. After three years, a total of about one-fifth (18 percent) of the 1995–96 freshmen at 4-year institutions had left postsecondary education without completing any degree program anywhere.<sup>12</sup> At both 2-year and at less-than-2-year institutions, about one-fourth (24 and 26 percent, respectively) of the beginning students left postsecondary education before their second year, and after three years, a total of about 40 percent had left postsecondary education without completing any program.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>12</sup>The difference between this 18 percent and the 13 percent who left postsecondary education from the first institution (figure 2) represents transfer students from the first institution who eventually left postsecondary education without a degree from another institution.

<sup>13</sup>The difference between 36 and 43 percent (figure 3) is not statistically significant.

**Figure 4—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to persistence and the last academic year enrolled anywhere, by level of first institution attended**



NOTE: The term “degree” includes certificates.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

## Persistence Risk Factors

Traditional students beginning postsecondary education for the first time usually enroll immediately after graduating from high school, are single, and are dependent on their parents for financial support. They usually attend full time, although many have part-time jobs while they are enrolled. By contrast, *nontraditional* beginners are usually older and have often delayed entry into postsecondary education. They may have children, are usually self-supporting, and often enroll as part-time students while holding a full-time job.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>14</sup>L. Horn, *Nontraditional Undergraduates: Trends in Enrollment from 1986 to 1992 and Persistence and Attainment Among 1989–90 Beginning Postsecondary Students* (NCES 97–578) (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1996).

The same characteristics that are associated with nontraditional students have also been identified as factors that are related to lower rates of persistence in postsecondary education. In particular, there are seven characteristics of students that increase the risk of their leaving postsecondary education before they complete a program. These “risk factors” are not having a regular high school diploma, delaying postsecondary enrollment by more than one year after high school, enrolling as a part-time student, working full time while enrolled, and beginning as a financially independent (self-supporting) student, as a student with children, or as a single parent.<sup>15</sup>

The number of risk factors is also directly related to the age at which the student first enrolled in postsecondary education. For example, among those who started at age 18, about two-thirds (67 percent) had no risk factors, while among those who first enrolled in their late 20s (24–29), about two-thirds (68 percent) had four or more (table 1).

The proportion of students with several persistence risk factors varied by the type of institution at which they began, reflecting the age distribution of the student body. At 4-year institutions, about 20 percent of the beginners were over age 18, compared with about one-half at 2-year institutions and about 80 percent at less-than-2-year institutions.<sup>16</sup> At 4-year institutions, just 10 percent of the beginning students had two or more characteristics associated with the risk of not persisting (6 percent with two or three factors and 4 percent with four or more), compared with one-half of those entering 2-year institutions and about three-fourths of those starting vocational certificate programs in less-than-2-year institutions (table 1).

In general, the likelihood of leaving postsecondary education without completing a program is directly related to the number of these risk factors that are part of a student’s characteristics.<sup>17</sup> For example, among all 1995–96 first-time beginning students with none of these risk factors, 16 percent left postsecondary education without a degree after three years, compared with one-third (32 percent) of those with one risk factor and one-half (49 percent) of those with two or three of these risk factors (table 2).

High-risk, nontraditional students are more likely to persist and complete short-term certificate programs than longer degree programs. Although the likelihood of leaving postsecondary education without a degree increased with the number of risk factors present, table 2 also shows that in total the likelihood of having *attained* a certificate *increased* with the number of risk factors. This reflects the fact that nontraditional, high-risk beginning students are concentrated in short-term vocational certificate programs, which are primarily offered at less-than-4-year

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<sup>15</sup>Ibid.

<sup>16</sup>Supplemental table 6.5a.

<sup>17</sup>See L. Horn, *Nontraditional Undergraduates*, and L. Berkner et al., *Descriptive Summary of 1989–90 Beginning Postsecondary Students: Five Years Later*.

**Table 1—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to number of persistence risk factors when first began, by age and type of institution first attended**

|                            | Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |      |              |              |
|----------------------------|---|------|--------------|--------------|
|                            | None  | One  | Two or three | Four or more |
| Total                      | 45.3  | 19.2 | 19.4         | 16.1         |
| Age when first enrolled    |   |      |              |              |
| 18 years or younger        | 67.2  | 22.1 | 9.1          | 1.6          |
| 19 years                   | 39.2  | 30.6 | 21.9         | 8.3          |
| 20–23 years                | 6.9   | 19.3 | 45.0         | 28.8         |
| 24–29 years                | 0.0   | 1.1  | 31.2         | 67.7         |
| 30 or older                | 0.0   | 2.2  | 40.3         | 57.6         |
| Level of first institution |   |      |              |              |
| 4-year                     | 75.0  | 14.5 | 6.4          | 4.1          |
| 2-year                     | 26.1  | 23.8 | 26.8         | 23.4         |
| Less-than-2-year           | 11.2  | 15.6 | 40.3         | 32.9         |
| Type of first institution  |   |      |              |              |
| 2-year                     |   |      |              |              |
| Public                     | 26.2  | 23.9 | 27.2         | 22.7         |
| Private, for-profit        | 23.3  | 21.5 | 22.5         | 32.7         |
| Less-than-2-year           |   |      |              |              |
| Public                     | 13.2  | 14.3 | 39.8         | 32.8         |
| Private, for-profit        | 10.7  | 15.9 | 40.7         | 32.7         |

\*Risk factors include (1) part-time attendance; (2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; (3) financially independent from parents; (4) work full time while enrolled; (5) have dependents; (6) single parent; and (7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

institutions.<sup>18</sup> Among the beginners at less-than-2-year institutions, which only offer certificate programs, over one-half (57 percent) earned a certificate within three years, and their attainment rates did not vary significantly with the number of risk factors present.

<sup>18</sup>About 4 percent of beginners in certificate programs were enrolled in 4-year institutions, 50 percent in 2-year institutions, and 46 percent in less-than-2-year institutions (supplemental table 6.1a).

**Table 2—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by number of persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                     |                         |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|---------------------|-------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained degree                         | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
| <b>All institutions</b>                    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                     |                         |
| Total                                      | 84.3                    | 10.3        | 5.1                | 0.4               | 15.8                                    | 51.9                | 32.3                    |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                     |                         |
| None                                       | 89.2                    | 3.6         | 6.8                | 0.4               | 10.8                                    | 72.8                | 16.4                    |
| One  | 85.9                    | 8.2         | 5.1                | 0.9               | 14.2                                    | 53.6                | 32.2                    |
| Two or three                               | 78.7                    | 18.4        | 2.8                | 0.1               | 21.7                                    | 29.5                | 48.8                    |
| Four or more                               | 75.1                    | 21.5        | 3.4                | 0.0               | 25.3                                    | 20.7                | 54.0                    |
| <b>4-year institutions</b>                 |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                     |                         |
| Total                                      | 95.7                    | 1.5         | 2.0                | 0.8               | 4.3                                     | 77.3                | 18.4                    |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                     |                         |
| None                                       | 96.9                    | 0.9         | 1.6                | 0.6               | 3.0                                     | 83.9                | 13.1                    |
| One  | 92.8                    | 2.2         | 2.5                | 2.5               | 7.3                                     | 68.0                | 24.7                    |
| Two or three                               | 90.7                    | 4.9         | 3.5                | 0.9               | 9.4                                     | 53.5                | 37.1                    |
| Four or more                               | 92.3                    | 4.9         | 2.8                | 0.0               | 8.0                                     | 38.5                | 53.5                    |
| <b>2-year institutions</b>                 |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                     |                         |
| Total                                      | 82.2                    | 9.4         | 8.4                | 0.0               | 18.1                                    | 38.9                | 43.0                    |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                     |                         |
| None                                       | 74.8                    | 5.3         | 19.9               | 0.0               | 25.6                                    | 50.3                | 24.0                    |
| One  | 87.1                    | 5.8         | 6.9                | 0.1               | 12.8                                    | 51.7                | 35.4                    |
| Two or three                               | 85.1                    | 11.9        | 3.1                | 0.0               | 15.3                                    | 30.2                | 54.5                    |
| Four or more                               | 79.9                    | 15.7        | 4.4                | 0.0               | 20.5                                    | 22.6                | 57.0                    |
| <b>Less-than-2-year institutions</b>       |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                     |                         |
| Total                                      | 42.6                    | 56.9        | 0.6                | 0.0               | 57.9                                    | 6.1                 | 36.0                    |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                     |                         |
| None                                       | 29.6                    | 70.0        | 0.3                | 0.0               | 68.3                                    | 8.5                 | 23.2                    |
| One  | 43.7                    | 56.3        | 0.0                | 0.0               | 56.4                                    | 6.0                 | 37.6                    |
| Two or three                               | 44.7                    | 54.0        | 1.4                | 0.0               | 57.4                                    | 7.0                 | 35.6                    |
| Four or more                               | 44.5                    | 55.5        | 0.0                | 0.0               | 55.5                                    | 2.3                 | 42.2                    |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

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# Students in Less-Than-4-Year Programs

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## Programs, Degree Goals, and Purpose

Students starting at less-than-4-year institutions may be classified in a variety of ways: according to the type of institution that they first attend, the type of program and field of study that they choose, the highest degree that they expect to earn at that institution, and their primary reason for enrolling. In the telephone interviews for the BPS:96/98 survey, students beginning at less-than-4-year institutions were asked the following series of questions to address the issues of program, first degree goals, and primary purpose:

- **Program:** What type of degree or certificate program are/were you enrolled in at the first institution attended? Respondents either named a program, or said they were not in any degree program.
- **First degree goal:** What is the highest degree that you expect to receive at the first institution attended? Respondents either named a degree or said that they were not planning to get a degree there and often said they were planning to transfer without a degree.
- **Purpose:** What was your primary reason for enrolling at the first institution attended? The responses were classified into the following categories: to learn job skills, to earn a degree or certificate, to transfer elsewhere, and for personal enrichment or other reasons.

The responses to these questions are shown in table 3. Students beginning at less-than-2-year institutions were relatively easy to classify. Since these institutions offer only vocational certificates, students can only be enrolled in certificate programs, and the highest degree they can earn there (their first degree goal) is a certificate (81 percent indicated this as their degree goal). About 19 percent indicated that they did not expect to earn any degree at that institution. When asked the purpose for enrolling, the majority (73 percent) indicated that their primary reason for enrolling at a less-than-2-year institution was to learn job skills.<sup>19</sup>

At 2-year institutions, the options are more varied. Depending on how the questions were interpreted, and the students' convictions (or indecision) at the time, the responses varied in

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<sup>19</sup>However, the survey questions may be biased. Those who expected to receive no degree or to earn a certificate were asked if they were enrolled for a job-related reason or some other reason. The others were only asked to state their primary reason. For details see "Purpose for enrolling (PGM6Y1)" in appendix A.

**Table 3—Percentage distribution (by columns) of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in less-than-4-year institutions according to degree programs and purposes for enrolling, by first institution level and control**

|   | Total<br>less-than-<br>4-year | Level of institution |        | Control of less-than-4-year institution |               |                                  |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------|---|---------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|   |                               | Less-than-<br>2-year | 2-year | Public<br>2-year                        | All<br>public | Private,<br>for-profit<br>2-year | All<br>private,<br>for-profit |
| Total                                   | 100.0                         | 100.0                | 100.0  | 100.0                                   | 100.0         | 100.0                            | 100.0                         |
| Level of first institution              |                               |                      |        |   |               |                                  |                               |
| Less-than-2-year                        | 14.8                          | 100.0                | †      | †                                       | 3.5           | †                                | 65.9                          |
| 2-year                                  | 85.2                          | †                    | 100.0  | 100.0                                   | 96.5          | 100.0                            | 34.1                          |
| Program/field at first institution      |                               |                      |        |   |               |                                  |                               |
| Vocational certificate                  | 30.8                          | 100.0                | 18.8   | 17.0                                    | 19.9          | 41.6                             | 80.1                          |
| Associate's, applied fields             | 34.0                          | †                    | 39.8   | 37.9                                    | 36.6          | 58.4                             | 19.9                          |
| Associate's, liberal arts/uncertain     | 35.3                          | †                    | 41.4   | 45.1                                    | 43.5          | 0.0                              | 0.0                           |
| Degree goal at first institution        |                               |                      |        |   |               |                                  |                               |
| None                                    | 14.9                          | 19.1                 | 14.2   | 14.4                                    | 14.6          | 10.6                             | 16.0                          |
| Certificate                             | 24.0                          | 80.9                 | 13.9   | 12.1                                    | 14.7          | 35.0                             | 64.6                          |
| Associate's degree                      | 41.5                          | 0.0                  | 48.8   | 48.5                                    | 46.7          | 49.3                             | 17.6                          |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year | 19.7                          | 0.0                  | 23.1   | 25.0                                    | 24.0          | 5.1                              | 1.8                           |
| Purpose for enrolling                   |                               |                      |        |   |               |                                  |                               |
| Job skills                              | 30.9                          | 73.0                 | 24.3   | 21.5                                    | 23.4          | 57.1                             | 66.5                          |
| Earn a degree or certificate            | 21.2                          | 13.5                 | 22.5   | 22.3                                    | 21.9          | 23.1                             | 17.5                          |
| Transfer to 4-year                      | 30.1                          | 0.7                  | 34.8   | 37.7                                    | 36.4          | 2.7                              | 1.5                           |
| Other                                   | 17.7                          | 12.9                 | 18.5   | 18.5                                    | 18.3          | 17.0                             | 14.5                          |
| Transfer or degree expectation          |                               |                      |        |   |               |                                  |                               |
| No degree, no transfer                  | 11.3                          | 14.3                 | 10.7   | 11.0                                    | 11.1          | 7.9                              | 11.8                          |
| Degree, no transfer                     | 51.5                          | 84.2                 | 45.8   | 42.2                                    | 43.7          | 82.5                             | 83.8                          |
| Degree, transfer                        | 15.9                          | 0.7                  | 18.6   | 20.0                                    | 19.3          | 3.7                              | 1.7                           |
| No degree, transfer                     | 21.4                          | 0.9                  | 24.9   | 26.9                                    | 25.9          | 5.9                              | 2.7                           |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

consistency. Moreover, the possible responses to these questions are not mutually exclusive. Students enrolled in an associate's degree program who intended to transfer to a 4-year college could have responded appropriately in a number of ways. They could report being in an associate's degree program, a bachelor's degree transfer program, or no degree program (just accumulating transfer course credits). In addition, they could respond with almost any of the options about their primary purpose.

Based on these responses, an additional composite variable was constructed to classify the beginning students by their combined expectations for earning a degree at the first institution and for transferring elsewhere, with or without a degree. In order to see if there was a difference between the persistence and attainment of students who had already declared a major in a field that was directly related to specific types of careers and those who were still undecided or were in a general liberal arts program, those in associate's degree programs were classified into two groups: liberal arts or undeclared majors and applied fields of study (anything other than liberal arts, primarily such fields as business, nursing, and technology).<sup>20</sup>

Students in associate's degree programs with majors in the applied fields were more likely than those in liberal arts or undeclared majors to say that their primary reason for enrolling was to acquire job skills (25 percent compared with 8 percent) and less likely to say that they planned to transfer to a 4-year institution (32 percent compared with 52 percent) (table 4). Those in applied majors were also twice as likely as those in liberal arts and undeclared majors to expect to earn a degree at the first institution without any plans to transfer (54 percent compared with 25 percent).

**Table 4—Percentage distribution (by columns) of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students attending less-than-4-year institutions according to type of program, by purpose for enrolling and transfer or degree expectation**

|                                | Program/field at first less-than-4-year institution |                                   |   |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|
|                                | Vocational certificate                              | Associate's degree applied fields | Associate's degree liberal arts/undecided |
| Total                          | 100.0   | 100.0                             | 100.0                                     |
| Purpose for enrolling          |   |                                   |   |
| Job skills                     | 64.2  | 25.4                              | 7.9                                       |
| Earn a degree or certificate   | 18.4  | 26.9                              | 17.6                                      |
| Transfer to 4-year             | 2.7   | 31.7                              | 52.2                                      |
| Other                          | 14.7  | 16.0                              | 22.2                                      |
| Transfer or degree expectation |   |                                   |   |
| No degree, no transfer         | 15.0  | 7.0                               | 12.2                                      |
| Degree, no transfer            | 79.3  | 53.6                              | 24.6                                      |
| Degree, transfer               | 3.1   | 20.7                              | 22.4                                      |
| No degree, transfer            | 2.6   | 18.6                              | 40.8                                      |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

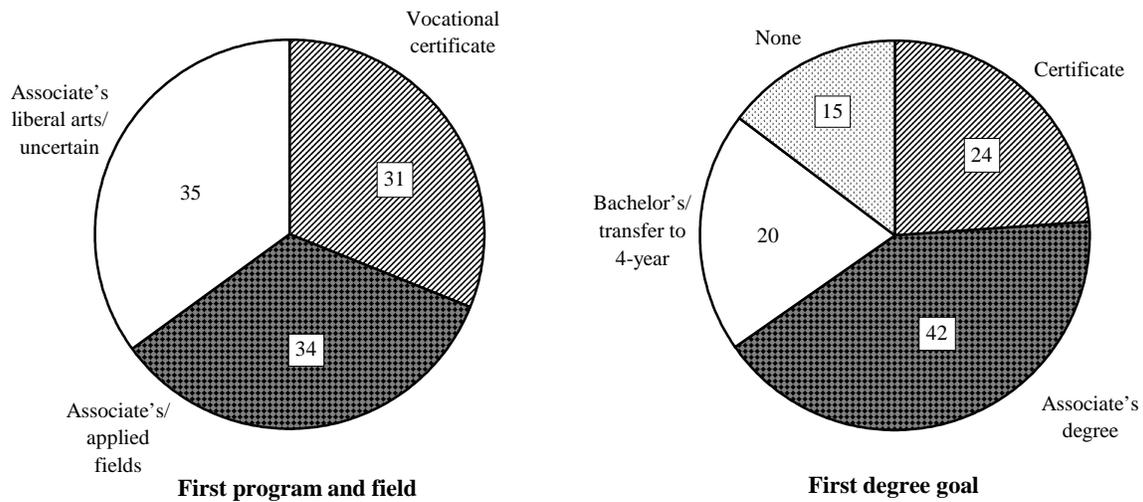
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

<sup>20</sup>See appendix A for details under "Program/field at first institution (PGM1Y1)." Approximately one-third of the liberal arts/undeclared majors were undeclared.

Among those in the liberal arts and undeclared majors, 41 percent expected to transfer without completing an associate’s degree, compared with 19 percent of those in applied fields.

As shown in figure 5, the beginning students at all less-than-4-year institutions were relatively evenly distributed among vocational certificate programs, applied associate’s degree fields, and liberal arts or undeclared associate’s fields, with about one-third in each area (31, 34, and 35

**Figure 5—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students enrolled in less-than-4-year institutions, by first program and field and first degree goal**

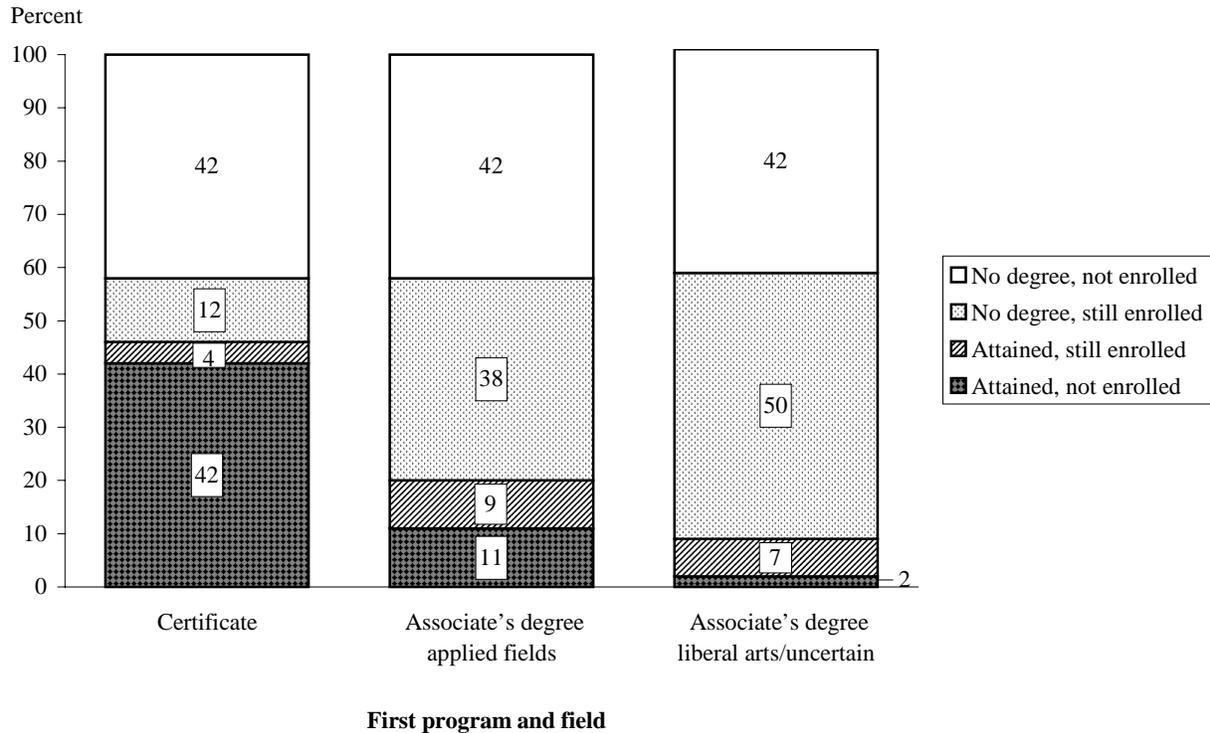


NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

percent, respectively). The percentage of students who had left postsecondary education without a degree was also the same in each of these programs (42 percent) (figure 6 and table 5). However, the attainment rates after three years were higher for those beginning in the certificate programs (46 percent) than for those in either of the associate’s degree programs (20 percent and 9 percent).

**Figure 6—Percentage distribution of persistence and attainment in 1998 of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in less-than-4-year institutions in 1998, by first program and field**



NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. The term “degree” includes certificates.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

There are several reasons for the higher attainment rates of those in certificate programs. Certificate programs are relatively short in duration. The full-time students who completed certificates did so in an average of 15 months.<sup>21</sup> Moreover, the majority (55 percent) of the students in certificate programs were always enrolled full time (table 6). In addition, most (82 percent) of the students in certificate programs expected to earn a certificate at the institution where they started.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>21</sup>Figure 9 below.

<sup>22</sup>Table 4 above. This is the sum of those who expected to earn a degree there, with or without subsequent transfer (3 percent and 79 percent, respectively).

**Table 5—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by degree program and goals**

|   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                          |                           |                         | Highest degree attained |                    |      |
|---|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------|
|   | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, still enrolled | No degree, still enrolled | No degree, not enrolled | Certificate             | Associate's degree | None |
| Total less-than-4-year                  | 17.1                                    | 6.8                      | 34.1                      | 41.9                    | 16.4                    | 7.3                | 76.3 |
| Degree program at first institution     |   |                          |                           |                         |                         |                    |      |
| Certificate                             | 41.9                                    | 4.2                      | 12.0                      | 41.9                    | 43.6                    | 2.1                | 54.3 |
| Associate's degree                      | 6.1                                     | 8.0                      | 44.0                      | 42.0                    | 4.3                     | 9.6                | 86.1 |
| Program/field at first institution      |   |                          |                           |                         |                         |                    |      |
| Vocational certificate                  | 41.9                                    | 4.2                      | 12.0                      | 41.9                    | 43.6                    | 2.1                | 54.3 |
| Associate's applied fields              | 10.6                                    | 9.0                      | 38.2                      | 42.3                    | 5.7                     | 13.5               | 80.7 |
| Associate's liberal arts/uncertain      | 1.7                                     | 7.1                      | 49.7                      | 41.7                    | 2.9                     | 5.7                | 91.3 |
| Degree goal at first institution        |   |                          |                           |                         |                         |                    |      |
| None                                    | 11.3                                    | 2.7                      | 26.6                      | 59.4                    | 10.4                    | 3.5                | 86.2 |
| Certificate                             | 47.2                                    | 5.6                      | 8.2                       | 39.0                    | 50.9                    | 2.0                | 47.2 |
| Associate's degree                      | 9.2                                     | 11.3                     | 37.1                      | 42.4                    | 6.2                     | 13.9               | 79.9 |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year | 3.3                                     | 4.9                      | 60.2                      | 31.7                    | 2.3                     | 5.6                | 92.0 |
| Purpose for enrolling                   |   |                          |                           |                         |                         |                    |      |
| Job skills                              | 31.9                                    | 5.3                      | 15.4                      | 47.4                    | 31.5                    | 5.5                | 63.1 |
| Degree or certificate                   | 17.5                                    | 6.2                      | 31.6                      | 44.7                    | 14.7                    | 8.9                | 76.5 |
| Transfer to 4-year                      | 2.5                                     | 12.2                     | 56.1                      | 29.2                    | 2.3                     | 12.0               | 85.7 |
| Other                                   | 15.6                                    | 5.0                      | 26.1                      | 53.4                    | 13.6                    | 6.5                | 79.8 |
| Transfer or degree expectation          |   |                          |                           |                         |                         |                    |      |
| No degree, no transfer                  | 11.7                                    | 1.0                      | 23.5                      | 63.8                    | 11.0                    | 1.3                | 87.8 |
| Degree, no transfer                     | 29.2                                    | 6.9                      | 21.3                      | 42.6                    | 28.2                    | 7.9                | 63.9 |
| Degree, transfer                        | 2.5                                     | 15.5                     | 46.6                      | 35.4                    | 3.0                     | 14.4               | 82.6 |
| No degree, transfer                     | 3.1                                     | 5.6                      | 56.7                      | 34.6                    | 2.2                     | 6.4                | 91.4 |
| Intensity pattern through 1998          |   |                          |                           |                         |                         |                    |      |
| Always full-time                        | 27.5                                    | 9.1                      | 26.7                      | 36.7                    | 23.5                    | 13.0               | 63.4 |
| Mixed                                   | 10.1                                    | 7.1                      | 52.6                      | 30.1                    | 12.0                    | 5.1                | 82.8 |
| Always part-time                        | 9.3                                     | 2.2                      | 18.5                      | 70.1                    | 11.4                    | 0.1                | 88.6 |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students at less-than-4-year institutions according to enrollment intensity, by type of institution, programs, and age**

|                                     | Full-time<br>in 1995–96 | Intensity pattern through 1998 |       |                  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|------------------|
|                                     |                         | Always full-time               | Mixed | Always part-time |
| Total less-than-4-year*             | 59.7                    | 41.6                           | 35.7  | 22.7             |
| Level of first institution          |                         |                                |       |                  |
| 2-year                              | 55.3                    | 35.5                           | 39.8  | 24.7             |
| Less-than-2-year                    | 85.0                    | 77.0                           | 12.2  | 10.8             |
| Control of first institution        |                         |                                |       |                  |
| Public                              | 53.4                    | 33.3                           | 40.7  | 26.0             |
| Private, for-profit                 | 85.7                    | 76.5                           | 14.4  | 9.1              |
| Type of first institution           |                         |                                |       |                  |
| 2-year                              |                         |                                |       |                  |
| Public                              | 52.6                    | 32.0                           | 41.6  | 26.4             |
| Private, for-profit                 | 82.5                    | 72.5                           | 20.6  | 6.9              |
| Less-than-2-year                    |                         |                                |       |                  |
| Public                              | 75.6                    | 70.9                           | 16.7  | 12.4             |
| Private, for-profit                 | 87.4                    | 78.7                           | 11.1  | 10.2             |
| Program/field at first institution  |                         |                                |       |                  |
| Vocational certificate              | 66.1                    | 55.3                           | 20.0  | 24.7             |
| Associate's, applied fields         | 63.0                    | 41.0                           | 38.2  | 20.9             |
| Associate's, liberal arts/uncertain | 50.7                    | 30.1                           | 47.3  | 22.7             |
| Degree goal at first institution    |                         |                                |       |                  |
| None                                | 50.5                    | 37.9                           | 27.0  | 35.1             |
| Certificate                         | 65.1                    | 53.6                           | 22.1  | 24.4             |
| Associate's                         | 61.4                    | 39.1                           | 39.0  | 21.9             |
| Transfer 4-year/bachelor's          | 62.4                    | 39.8                           | 48.7  | 11.5             |
| Age when began at first institution |                         |                                |       |                  |
| 18 years or younger                 | 65.4                    | 45.1                           | 43.6  | 11.3             |
| 19 years                            | 72.1                    | 44.2                           | 40.5  | 15.3             |
| 20–23 years                         | 62.5                    | 42.4                           | 33.7  | 23.9             |
| 24–29                               | 44.2                    | 34.4                           | 26.0  | 39.5             |
| 30 or older                         | 42.9                    | 35.5                           | 19.7  | 44.8             |

\*Includes private, not-for-profit.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

Associate's degree programs take longer to complete than certificates. Moreover, just one-third (36 percent) of the students in associate's degree programs attended full time during their entire period of enrollment. In addition, those in associate's programs were less likely to expect to earn a degree at their 2-year institution. As shown in table 4 above, among liberal arts/undeclared majors, about one-half planned to earn a degree (22 percent before transferring and 25 percent with no transfer plans). After three years, just 9 percent had actually earned a degree, and most of these students (7 percent) were still enrolled and continuing their education (figure 6). Among those in applied associate's degree programs, about three-fourths (74 percent) expected to complete a degree at the institution, and 20 percent did so within three years. About one-half of those with degrees (11 percent) continued their education.

Beginning students who were always enrolled part time were twice as likely to leave postsecondary education without a degree than those always enrolled full time (70 percent compared with 37 percent; table 5). There was no difference in the percentage of beginning students in certificate and in associate's degree programs who were always enrolled part time (25 and 22 percent, respectively; table 6). The proportion of beginning students always enrolled part time was directly related to the age of the students, however. Among the beginning students who were 18 or younger, just 11 percent were always enrolled part time; among those age 30 or older, 45 percent were always enrolled part time. Among those who identified themselves as primarily employees rather than students, about one-half (51 percent) were always enrolled part time, and among those who did not expect to earn a degree at that institution or to transfer, 43 percent were always enrolled part time.<sup>23</sup> This suggests that the low persistence rates of beginning students who were always enrolled part time was not just related to their attendance pattern but also to their reasons for enrolling.

## **Beginning Students at Public and at Private, for-Profit Institutions**

As shown previously, there is a substantial overlap in institution level, institution control, and degree programs offered. Less-than-2-year institutions are primarily private, for-profit and offer only certificate programs. Two-year institutions are primarily public, and most of the students are in associate's degree programs. This overlap tends to obscure any differences in the persistence and attainment of beginners that may be related to whether they are enrolled in public or in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions.

The distribution of beginning students at public and at private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to the various indicators of programs, degree goals, and purpose was

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<sup>23</sup>U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98), Data Analysis System.

shown in table 3 above. At the public institutions, enrollments were dominated by the 2-year community colleges, and just 4 percent were enrolled in less-than-2-year institutions. At the private, for-profit institutions, on the other hand, the majority of beginning students (66 percent) were attending less-than-2-year institutions.

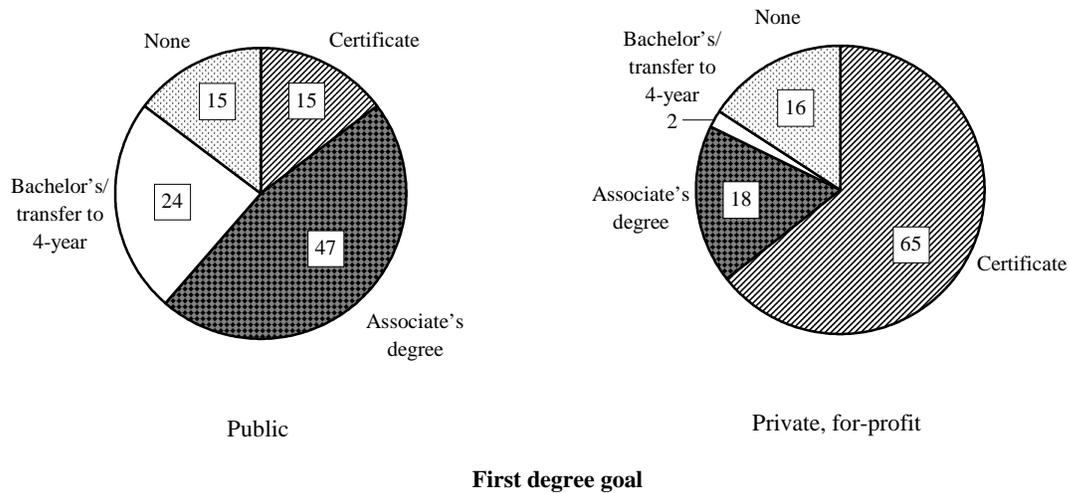
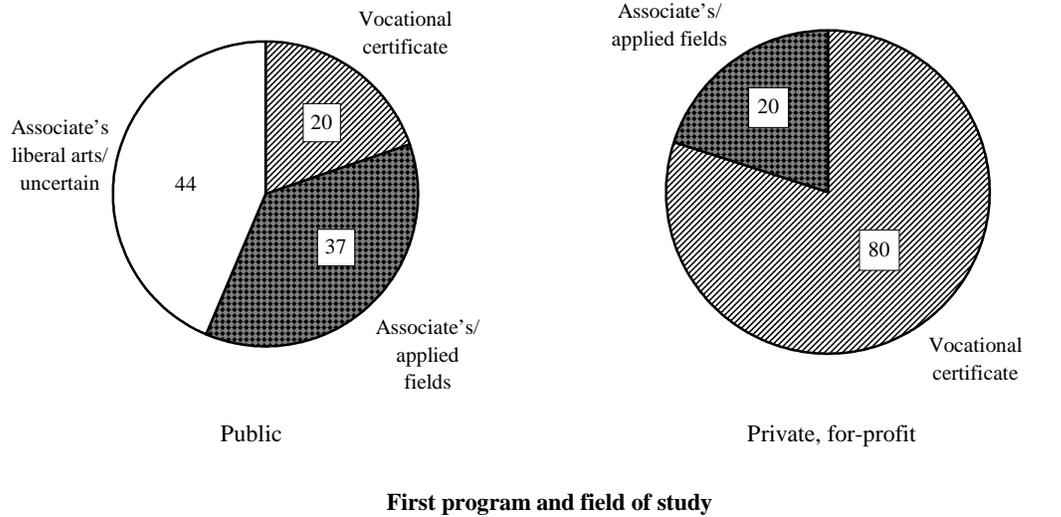
Since less-than-2-year institutions do not offer associate's degrees, one of the major differences between beginning students at public and private, for-profit institutions was the type of program in which they were enrolled (figure 7). At the private, for-profit institutions, 80 percent of the beginning students were in vocational certificate programs, and 20 percent in applied associate's degree programs. This was the reverse of the distribution at the public institutions, where about 20 percent were in certificate programs and about 80 percent in associate's degree programs. Moreover, while all of the beginning students in associate's degree programs at private, for-profit institutions were in applied fields of study, those in public institutions were as likely to be in liberal arts or undeclared majors as to be in applied fields (about 40 percent each).

Students' *degree goals* at the first institution were also quite different (figure 7). The majority of beginning students at private, for-profit institutions expected to earn either a certificate (65 percent) or an associate's degree (18 percent); just 2 percent indicated that they intended to transfer to a 4-year institution. At the public institutions, on the other hand, one-fourth of the beginning students said that their goal was to transfer to a 4-year college.

As was shown in table 3, when the students at the public institutions were asked their primary *purpose for enrolling*, about one-third (36 percent) said that they intended to transfer, and about one-fifth (22 percent) replied that earning a degree was of primary importance. Since earning a degree and transferring are not mutually exclusive, the various combinations of *transfer or degree expectations* are also shown at the bottom of table 3. At the private, for-profit institutions, 83 percent of the beginning students indicated in some way that they intended to earn a degree at the institution, with no intention of transferring. At the public institutions, on the other hand, about half as many (44 percent) indicated that they intended to earn a degree at the institution without any plans to transfer. About the same percentage (45 percent) of students at the public institutions indicated that they did intend to transfer, either after earning a degree (19 percent) or without a degree (26 percent).

The differences in the programs and degree goals among beginning students at the public institutions and those at private, for-profit institutions partly reflect the predominance of enrollments at 2-year institutions in the public sector, and at less-than-2-year institutions in the private, for-profit sector. A direct comparison among students enrolled in 2-year institutions, however,

**Figure 7—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who first enrolled in public and private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions, by first program and field of study and by first degree goal**



NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

continues to show some of the same differences found in the totals of both sectors (table 3). Beginning students at 2-year private, for-profit institutions were more likely to be enrolled in certificate programs than those in 2-year public institutions (42 percent compared with 17 percent) and therefore were more likely to have the goal of earning a certificate (35 percent compared with 12 percent) than their counterparts at public institutions.

About one-half (49 percent) of beginning students at both public and private, for-profit 2-year institutions had the goal of earning an associate's degree at that institution (table 3). The percentage whose primary purpose for enrolling was to earn a degree was also the same in both public and private, for-profit 2-year institutions (22 and 23 percent, respectively). However, those at the private, for-profit 2-year institutions were more likely to say that their primary reason for enrolling was to gain job skills (57 percent compared with 22 percent) and were much less likely to say that their primary purpose was to transfer to a 4-year college (3 percent compared with 38 percent).

In addition to enrolling in shorter programs, focusing on gaining job skills, and having degree goals specific to the programs offered at the first institution attended, beginning students at private, for-profit institutions were more likely to attend full time for their entire period of enrollment (table 6). About three-fourths (77 percent) of the beginning students at private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions were always enrolled full time, compared with one-third (33 percent) of the beginning students at the public institutions. Moreover, about one-fourth (26 percent) of the beginning students at the public institutions were always enrolled part time, compared with just one-tenth (9 percent) at the private, for-profit institutions.

### **Persistence and Attainment at Public and at Private, for-Profit Institutions**

Most of the beginning students at private, for-profit institutions were enrolled in short-term certificate programs, while most of those in public institutions were enrolled in longer term associate's degree programs. Based on the analysis in the prior sections of this report, it might be expected that students in the for-profit sector would have higher rates of attainment at the first institution attended. A comparison of the institutional retention and attainment rates of beginning students in vocational certificate and associate's degree programs at public and private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions is shown in table 7. Those who first attended private, for-profit institutions did have higher attainment rates than those who first attended public institutions. Fifty-two percent of those at private, for-profit institutions attained a credential (44 percent earned certificates and 8 percent earned associate's degrees), compared with 14 percent in the public institutions (8 percent certificates and 6 percent associate's degrees).

**Table 7—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in less-than-4-year institutions according to 3-year persistence and attainment and retention at the first institution attended**

|                                     | Total persistence and attainment |                                |                                 |                               | Attainment and retention at first institution |                       |                   |                  |                 |  |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|--|
|                                     | Attained,<br>not<br>enrolled     | Attained,<br>still<br>enrolled | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled | No degree,<br>not<br>enrolled | Attained                                      |                       | No degree         |                  |                 |  |
|                                     |                                  |                                |                                 |                               | Certificate                                   | Associate's<br>degree | Still<br>enrolled | Trans-<br>ferred | Not<br>enrolled |  |
| Total less-than-4-year*             | 17.1                             | 6.8                            | 34.1                            | 41.9                          | 14.5  | 6.5                   | 26.5              | 17.9             | 34.6            |  |
| Type of first institution           |                                  |                                |                                 |                               |   |                       |                   |                  |                 |  |
| 2-year                              |                                  |                                |                                 |                               |   |                       |                   |                  |                 |  |
| Public                              | 8.0                              | 7.2                            | 41.2                            | 43.6                          | 6.5   | 6.0                   | 31.6              | 20.6             | 35.4            |  |
| Private, for-profit                 | 42.5                             | 6.6                            | 14.6                            | 36.3                          | 22.6  | 23.3                  | 12.7              | 8.5              | 33.0            |  |
| Less-than-2-year                    |                                  |                                |                                 |                               |   |                       |                   |                  |                 |  |
| Public                              | 46.4                             | 3.8                            | 7.0                             | 42.9                          | 48.6  | †                     | 5.3               | 9.5              | 36.7            |  |
| Private, for-profit                 | 55.7                             | 4.6                            | 5.7                             | 34.0                          | 55.4  | †                     | 7.2               | 6.9              | 30.5            |  |
| Control of first institution        |                                  |                                |                                 |                               |   |                       |                   |                  |                 |  |
| Public                              | 9.4                              | 7.0                            | 40.0                            | 43.6                          | 8.0   | 5.8                   | 30.6              | 20.2             | 35.5            |  |
| Private, for-profit                 | 51.2                             | 5.3                            | 8.8                             | 34.8                          | 44.1  | 8.0                   | 9.1               | 7.4              | 31.4            |  |
| Degree program at first institution |                                  |                                |                                 |                               |   |                       |                   |                  |                 |  |
| Certificate                         |                                  |                                |                                 |                               |   |                       |                   |                  |                 |  |
| Public                              | 30.6                             | 3.5                            | 17.3                            | 48.7                          | 29.7  | 1.4                   | 19.9              | 8.7              | 40.3            |  |
| Private, for-profit                 | 55.3                             | 5.0                            | 5.9                             | 33.9                          | 54.2  | 1.2                   | 6.9               | 7.0              | 30.7            |  |
| Associate's degree                  |                                  |                                |                                 |                               |   |                       |                   |                  |                 |  |
| Public                              | 4.0                              | 7.9                            | 45.8                            | 42.3                          | 2.5   | 6.8                   | 33.4              | 23.1             | 34.3            |  |
| Private, for-profit                 | 35.0                             | 6.6                            | 20.1                            | 38.4                          | 4.7   | 34.6                  | 17.8              | 9.2              | 33.8            |  |
| Intensity pattern through 1998      |                                  |                                |                                 |                               |   |                       |                   |                  |                 |  |
| Always full-time attendance         |                                  |                                |                                 |                               |   |                       |                   |                  |                 |  |
| Public                              | 15.9                             | 11.0                           | 36.7                            | 36.4                          | 11.5  | 12.8                  | 22.5              | 22.9             | 30.4            |  |
| Private, for-profit                 | 49.8                             | 4.9                            | 7.9                             | 37.3                          | 42.0  | 8.9                   | 8.5               | 6.6              | 34.0            |  |

\*Includes private, not-for-profit.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

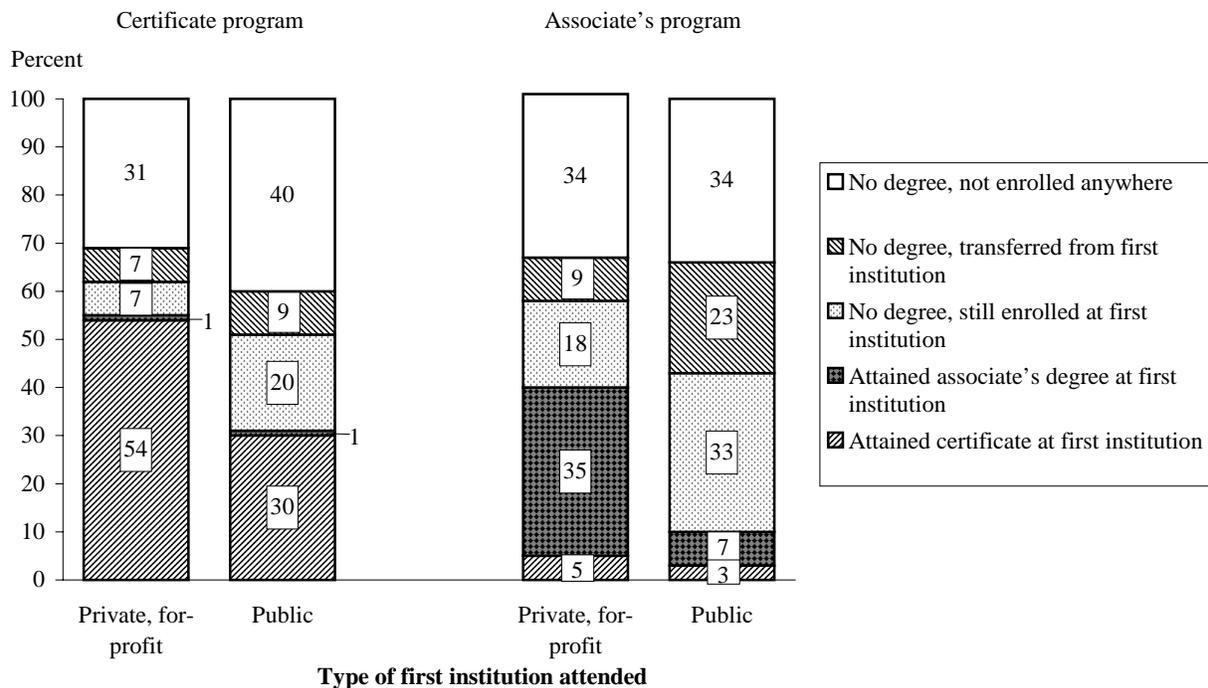
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

The disparity in the attainment rates reflects the difference in the type of program as well as the difference in the transfer plans of the beginning students in the two sectors (figure 7). The majority of students at public institutions were in associate's degree programs, which require longer to complete, and nearly 40 percent did not plan to get any degree at that institution (15 percent had no degree goal and 24 percent had plans to transfer). The majority of those in private,

for-profit institutions were in short-term certificate programs, and over 80 percent did intend to get a certificate or degree at that institution (65 percent planned to get a certificate and 18 percent planned an associate’s degree).

However, the difference in attainment rates at public and private, for-profit institutions is still evident when comparing certificate and associate’s programs within the two sectors (figure 8 and table 7). About one-half (54 percent) of those who began in certificate programs at private, for-profit institutions attained a certificate at the first institution attended, compared with 30 percent of those who began at public institutions. The percentage of beginning students in associate’s degree programs who attained an associate’s degree at the first institution attended was also higher at the private, for-profit institutions than at the public institutions (35 percent compared with 7 percent). The percentage of beginning students in associate’s degree programs who left postsecondary education from the first institution attended was the same in both sectors, however (34 percent).

**Figure 8—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in private, for-profit and in public less-than-4-year institutions, by enrollment status and attainment at the first institution attended after three years**



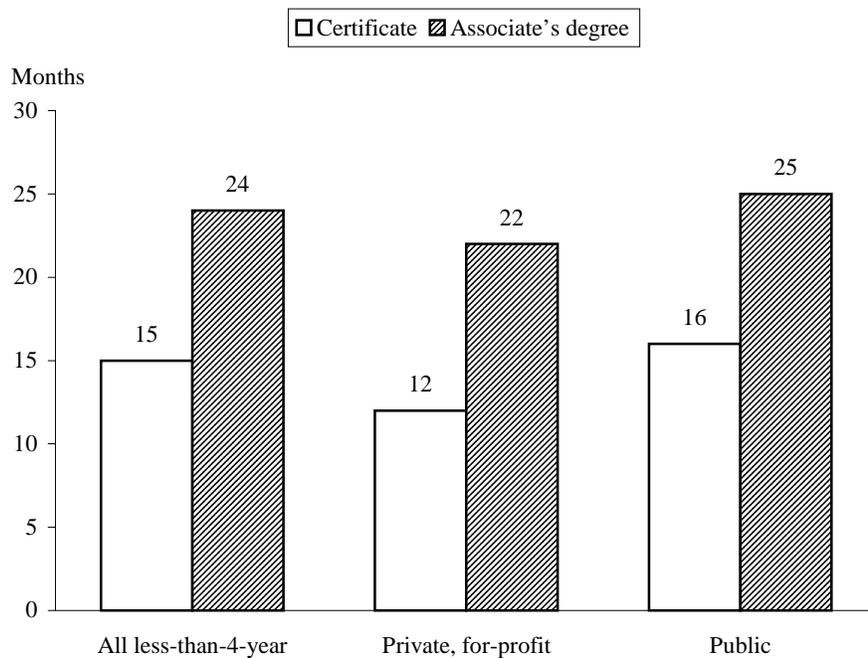
NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. The term “degree” includes certificates.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

The attainment rates in both certificate and associate's degree programs are higher at private, for-profit than at public less-than-4-year institutions. The reasons for this difference may be that beginning students at for-profit institutions are more likely to attend as full-time students and that the academic term structure is often more flexible at the private, for-profit institutions than at the public institutions. Many private, for-profit institutions offer programs that allow for continuous enrollment without a regular term structure or summer vacations. This is reflected in the time it takes to attain a degree, i.e., the number of months between the start and completion of a program (figure 9). Full-time students who completed certificates at private, for-profit institutions finished in an average of 12 months, while those who completed certificates at public institutions required an average of 16 months. Similarly, full-time students who completed an associate's degree at public institutions took 25 months, 3 months longer than those who received an associate's degree at private, for-profit institutions.

**Figure 9—Average number of months for 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students to complete a vocational certificate or an associate's degree, by type of less-than-4-year institution attended**

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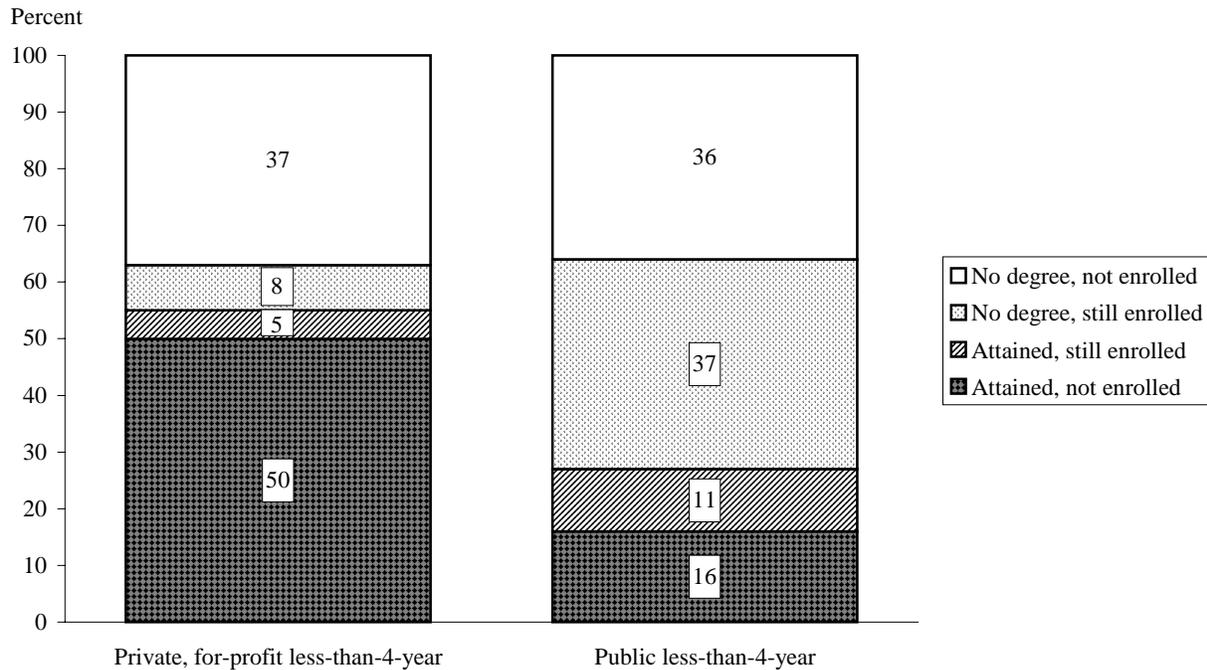


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SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

Over a period of three years, beginning students may change their initial degree programs, fields of study, and degree goals. As shown in table 5 above, the degrees actually attained by students are not always consistent with their original degree programs or goals. Students starting in certificate programs may earn associate's degrees, and those in associate's degree programs may only earn certificates. Some students may also transfer from one type of institution to a similar or different type, whatever their original expectations. The students at the private, for-profit institutions were more likely to be in shorter programs, focus on gaining job skills, intend to get a degree, and attend full time for the duration of their enrollment. The students at the public institutions were more likely to be in longer programs, focus less on job skills, intend to transfer to 4-year institutions with or without a degree, and attend part time during all or part of their enrollment. In terms of their persistence anywhere in postsecondary education, the type of less-than-4-year institution where they began may be less important than whether they were always enrolled as full-time students. As shown in figure 10, among the students who were *always*

**Figure 10—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 students beginning in less-than-4-year institutions who were always enrolled full time, by total 3-year persistence and attainment and control of first institution attended**



NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. The term “degree” includes certificates; 42 percent of beginning students in less-than-4-year institutions were always enrolled full time.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

enrolled full time, there was no difference between the public and the private, for-profit sectors in the percentage of beginners who had left postsecondary education entirely after three years (36 and 37 percent, respectively).

### Employment Outcomes for Students in Vocational and Applied Fields of Study

About two-thirds of the beginning students at less-than-4-year institutions were enrolled in career-oriented programs, either in vocational certificate or associate’s degree programs in applied fields, as previously shown in figure 5. The beginning students in vocational certificate and applied associate’s degree programs were concentrated in three general fields of study: business/secretarial (24 percent), nursing and allied health (20 percent), and technical/mechanical (20 percent) (table 8). An additional 8 percent were in cosmetology. The associate’s programs were usually in business administration, licensed nursing and allied health technicians, and engineering technology. The certificate programs were usually in secretarial, practical nursing or health assistants, mechanical trades, or cosmetology.<sup>24</sup> At the private, for-profit institutions, about one-fourth (26 percent) of the beginning students were enrolled in cosmetology certificate programs, a type of vocational training that was rarely offered at public institutions.

**Table 8—Percentage distribution (by columns) of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students attending less-than-4-year institutions in applied fields of study according to control of first institution attended and type of program, by type of applied field**

|                                 | Total | Control of first less-than-4-year institution |                     | Degree program         |                            |
|---------------------------------|-------|---|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
|                                 |       | Public  | Private, for-profit | Vocational certificate | Associate’s applied fields |
| Total                           | 100.0 | 100.0   | 100.0               | 100.0                  | 100.0                      |
| Applied fields of study 1995–96 |       |   |                     |                        |                            |
| Cosmetology                     | 7.9   | 1.2   | 25.5                | 16.6                   | 0.0                        |
| Nursing/allied health           | 19.8  | 21.7  | 15.8                | 19.7                   | 20.0                       |
| Business/secretarial            | 23.8  | 23.9  | 23.2                | 16.9                   | 30.1                       |
| Technology/mechanical           | 19.7  | 19.9  | 18.6                | 26.1                   | 13.9                       |
| Other applied fields            | 28.7  | 33.3  | 17.0                | 20.7                   | 36.0                       |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

<sup>24</sup>However, the reported majors were often generic, such as “business” or “nursing,” without further distinctions.

As shown earlier in table 5, 42 percent of the beginning students in vocational certificate programs at less-than-4-year institutions completed a program within three years (usually in about one year) and did not continue further education, and another 42 percent left postsecondary education without completing a program. Among those in applied associate's degree fields, about 11 percent completed a program and left, and about 42 percent left postsecondary education without a degree. Although the percentage who left before completion was the same in both types of programs, the attainment rates in the certificate programs were higher, in part because certificates could be completed in less time than associate's degrees.

The economic benefits of completing a vocational certificate or applied associate's degree have been the subject of some debate. Many studies have shown that there are long-term economic benefits from taking courses in less-than-4-year institutions, but there is disagreement about whether there are additional benefits to completing a program and attaining a certificate or associate's degree.<sup>25</sup> The time frame of this study may be too short to address this issue. The students who started in certificate or associate's degree programs and were no longer enrolled in 1998 would usually have been employed for just two years or less after leaving postsecondary education (with or without a credential).

The students who had started at less-than-4-year institutions in 1995–96, who were no longer enrolled in 1998, and who were employed were asked about their starting salaries in the job held after they left postsecondary education. The sample sizes are too small to report significant differences in salaries between those who did or did not complete degrees within fields, or differences by field among those who did attain a degree. However, the median full-time starting salaries for all those who attained a certificate or associate's degree were the same as for those who did not complete a program (\$15,000).<sup>26</sup>

Although there was no difference in the reported median starting salaries, those who had completed a program perceived greater benefits from their postsecondary education than those who did not. Table 9 shows the benefits of their education reported by those working full time in 1998, both for those who completed a certificate or associate's degree and those who did not, by field of study. Those who had completed their programs were more likely to indicate that they were able to take on more responsibility (70 versus 47 percent), had better job opportunities (74 versus 51 percent), and were able to earn higher salaries (66 versus 38 percent) because of their education than those who did not.<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>25</sup>For a good recent review of the issues, see T. Kane and C. Rouse, "The Community College: Educating Students at the Margin Between College and Work," *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 13 (1999): 63–84.

<sup>26</sup>See supplemental table 7.10.

<sup>27</sup>For the wording of the questions, see the variables JFERESB1, JFEOPPB1, and JFESALB1 in the glossary.

**Table 9—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in applied fields of study who were not enrolled as of 1998 and who reported working, the percentage reporting various job enhancements related to enrollment, by degree attainment and applied field of study**

|   | Able to earn<br>higher salary | Able to take on<br>more responsibility | Have better<br>job opportunities |
|---|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>Attained degree or certificate, not enrolled</b> |                               |  |                                  |
| Total in applied fields*                            | 66.3                          | 70.0                                   | 74.3                             |
| Applied fields of study 1995–96                     |                               |  |                                  |
| Cosmetology   | 78.8                          | 83.2                                   | 82.9                             |
| Nursing/allied health                               | 84.3                          | 88.2                                   | 87.1                             |
| Business/secretarial                                | 66.1                          | 63.3                                   | 72.1                             |
| Technology/mechanical                               | 62.1                          | 71.3                                   | 69.8                             |
| Other applied fields                                | 45.7                          | 46.9                                   | 65.1                             |
| Program/field at first institution                  |                               |  |                                  |
| Vocational certificate                              | 67.2                          | 70.4                                   | 73.6                             |
| Associate's applied fields                          | 61.3                          | 67.9                                   | 77.8                             |
| Control of first institution                        |                               |  |                                  |
| Public  | 56.2                          | 64.5                                   | 69.7                             |
| Private, for-profit                                 | 74.8                          | 73.9                                   | 77.6                             |
| <b>No degree, not enrolled</b>                      |                               |  |                                  |
| Total   | 38.2                          | 47.2                                   | 50.6                             |
| Applied fields of study 1995–96                     |                               |  |                                  |
| Cosmetology   | 20.4                          | 39.2                                   | 23.4                             |
| Nursing/allied health                               | 37.0                          | 34.8                                   | 56.6                             |
| Business/secretarial                                | 37.5                          | 44.9                                   | 42.4                             |
| Technology/mechanical                               | 43.6                          | 59.0                                   | 61.6                             |
| Other applied fields                                | 38.7                          | 50.0                                   | 50.1                             |
| Program/field at first institution                  |                               |  |                                  |
| Vocational certificate                              | 48.6                          | 62.9                                   | 63.0                             |
| Associate's applied fields                          | 29.9                          | 33.3                                   | 39.3                             |
| Control of first institution                        |                               |  |                                  |
| Public  | 37.2                          | 46.2                                   | 52.3                             |
| Private, for-profit                                 | 41.3                          | 50.6                                   | 44.5                             |

\*Excludes students in liberal arts and undeclared majors.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

Since starting salaries are also related to age and prior work experience, a more extensive analysis of the employment data would be required to draw any further conclusions about the real short-term economic benefits of completing a sub-baccalaureate program. Subjectively, however, two-thirds of those who completed their programs and about one-third of those who did not reported that they were able to earn higher salaries as a result of their additional education.

## **Conclusion**

Because of the large difference in enrollments by program, a comparison of beginning students in public and in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions is essentially a comparison of students in associate's degree programs at public 2-year community colleges and students in vocational certificate programs at private, for-profit institutions.

The three-year persistence rates (i.e., attained or still enrolled) of students beginning in certificate programs and those beginning in associate's degree programs are the same, and the persistence of full-time students is also the same for those who began in public and those who began in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions.

The attainment rates in both certificate and associate's degree programs are higher at private, for-profit than at public less-than-4-year institutions. The reasons for this difference may be that beginning students at for-profit institutions are more likely to attend as full-time students, and that the academic term structure at the private, for-profit institutions allows students to complete their degrees in somewhat less time than at the public institutions.

The economic benefits of having completed a program and receiving a credential at a less-than-4-year institution may not be apparent in the short-term. Although the median starting salaries (\$15,000) were the same whether or not students received a credential, those who did complete a program were more likely to perceive positive economic benefits from their education than those who did not.

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## **Table Compendium**

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## Supplemental Persistence and Attainment Tables

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Section 1: Total 3-year persistence and attainment  
All institutions

Section 2: Total 3-year persistence and attainment by sectors  
All less-than-4-year institutions  
Public less-than-4-year institutions  
Private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions  
All 4-year institutions  
Public 4-year institutions  
Private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions

Section 3: Institutional attainment and retention by sectors  
All institutions  
All less-than-4-year institutions  
Public less-than-4-year institutions  
Private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions  
All 4-year institutions  
Public 4-year institutions  
Private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions

Section 4: Year by year persistence and attainment by sectors  
All institutions  
All less-than-4-year institutions  
Public less-than-4-year institutions  
Private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions  
All 4-year institutions  
Public 4-year institutions  
Private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions

Section 5: Persistence and attainment by first degree goal  
Certificate  
Associate's degree  
Bachelor's degree

**Table 1.1—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by first institution attended and first degree program**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |                        |        | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                       |                           |                                  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|------------------------|--------|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's Bachelor's |        | Attained,<br>not<br>enrolled            | Attained,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>not<br>enrolled |
|  |                         |             | degree                 | degree |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Total                                      | 84.3                    | 10.3        | 5.1                    | 0.4    | 11.0                                    | 4.9                   | 51.9                      | 32.3                             |
| Type of first institution                  |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| 4-year                                     |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Public                                     | 96.1                    | 1.4         | 1.8                    | 0.8    | 2.2                                     | 1.7                   | 77.3                      | 18.8                             |
| Private, not-for-profit                    | 95.8                    | 1.5         | 2.0                    | 0.7    | 1.8                                     | 2.5                   | 78.5                      | 17.2                             |
| Private, for-profit                        | 75.3                    | 7.6         | 13.9                   | 3.2    | 19.5                                    | 5.6                   | 41.3                      | 33.6                             |
| 2-year                                     |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Public                                     | 85.1                    | 8.0         | 6.9                    | 0.0    | 8.0                                     | 7.2                   | 41.2                      | 43.6                             |
| Private, not-for-profit                    | 56.8                    | 12.7        | 29.0                   | 1.5    | 31.4                                    | 12.7                  | 21.2                      | 34.7                             |
| Private, for-profit                        | 51.5                    | 25.4        | 23.1                   | 0.0    | 42.5                                    | 6.6                   | 14.6                      | 36.3                             |
| Less-than-2-year                           |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Public                                     | 49.7                    | 49.7        | 0.6                    | 0.0    | 46.4                                    | 3.8                   | 7.0                       | 42.9                             |
| Private, for-profit                        | 40.5                    | 59.0        | 0.6                    | 0.0    | 55.7                                    | 4.6                   | 5.7                       | 34.0                             |
| Level of first institution                 |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| 4-year                                     | 95.7                    | 1.5         | 2.0                    | 0.8    | 2.2                                     | 2.1                   | 77.3                      | 18.4                             |
| 2-year                                     | 82.2                    | 9.4         | 8.4                    | 0.0    | 10.9                                    | 7.2                   | 38.9                      | 43.0                             |
| Less-than-2-year                           | 42.6                    | 56.9        | 0.6                    | 0.0    | 53.4                                    | 4.6                   | 6.1                       | 36.0                             |
| Control of first institution               |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Public                                     | 88.2                    | 6.6         | 4.9                    | 0.3    | 6.8                                     | 5.2                   | 53.2                      | 34.8                             |
| Private, not-for-profit                    | 93.3                    | 2.3         | 3.6                    | 0.8    | 3.6                                     | 3.2                   | 74.8                      | 18.5                             |
| Private, for-profit                        | 45.5                    | 45.9        | 8.5                    | 0.1    | 49.8                                    | 5.3                   | 10.1                      | 34.7                             |
| Degree program at first institution        |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Certificate                                | 55.6                    | 42.0        | 2.4                    | 0.0    | 40.8                                    | 4.1                   | 13.8                      | 41.4                             |
| Associate's degree                         | 85.8                    | 4.3         | 9.9                    | 0.0    | 6.4                                     | 8.0                   | 43.4                      | 42.2                             |
| Bachelor's degree                          | 96.9                    | 1.1         | 1.1                    | 0.9    | 1.3                                     | 1.7                   | 80.5                      | 16.5                             |
| Degree goal at first institution           |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| None                                       | 88.2                    | 8.5         | 3.2                    | 0.1    | 9.3                                     | 2.7                   | 29.9                      | 58.1                             |
| Certificate                                | 46.6                    | 51.0        | 2.4                    | 0.0    | 48.6                                    | 5.1                   | 9.9                       | 36.5                             |
| Associate's degree                         | 79.7                    | 6.1         | 14.2                   | 0.1    | 9.5                                     | 11.3                  | 38.1                      | 41.1                             |
| Bachelor's degree or<br>transfer to 4-year | 95.1                    | 1.5         | 2.7                    | 0.8    | 2.1                                     | 2.8                   | 75.7                      | 19.4                             |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained    |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| None                                       | 100.0                   | †           | †                      | †      | †                                       | †                     | 61.6                      | 38.4                             |
| Certificate                                | †                       | 97.0        | 2.6                    | 0.5    | 81.4                                    | 18.6                  | †                         | †                                |
| Associate's degree                         | †                       | †           | 99.4                   | 0.7    | 43.9                                    | 56.1                  | †                         | †                                |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 1.2—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by attendance patterns through 1998**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |                        |        | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                       |                           |                                  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|------------------------|--------|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's Bachelor's |        | Attained,<br>not<br>enrolled            | Attained,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>not<br>enrolled |
|  |                         |             | degree                 | degree |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Total                                  | 84.3                    | 10.3        | 5.1                    | 0.4    | 11.0                                    | 4.9                   | 51.9                      | 32.3                             |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998 |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Less than 12 months                    | 80.5                    | 18.8        | 0.7                    | 0.0    | 18.5                                    | 1.0                   | 4.0                       | 76.5                             |
| 12–24 months                           | 75.4                    | 17.0        | 6.9                    | 0.7    | 21.5                                    | 3.1                   | 32.4                      | 43.0                             |
| 25 months or more                      | 90.3                    | 2.7         | 6.6                    | 0.4    | 1.8                                     | 7.8                   | 87.3                      | 3.1                              |
| Intensity pattern through 1998         |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Always full-time                       | 81.6                    | 10.9        | 7.0                    | 0.5    | 13.3                                    | 5.1                   | 56.4                      | 25.2                             |
| Mixed                                  | 86.4                    | 9.3         | 4.0                    | 0.3    | 7.9                                     | 5.7                   | 59.7                      | 26.7                             |
| Always part-time                       | 89.0                    | 10.8        | 0.2                    | 0.0    | 8.8                                     | 2.2                   | 19.1                      | 69.9                             |
| Academic year of last enrollment       |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| 1995–96                                | 84.5                    | 14.9        | 0.6                    | 0.0    | 15.5                                    | †                     | †                         | 84.5                             |
| 1996–97                                | 63.7                    | 27.8        | 7.5                    | 1.0    | 36.4                                    | †                     | †                         | 63.7                             |
| 1997–98                                | 89.0                    | 4.8         | 5.9                    | 0.3    | 3.4                                     | 7.6                   | 80.9                      | 8.1                              |
| Transfer status through 1998           |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Did not transfer                       | 84.8                    | 11.4        | 3.4                    | 0.4    | 12.8                                    | 2.4                   | 47.7                      | 37.2                             |
| Transferred                            | 81.7                    | 7.0         | 11.1                   | 0.2    | 4.7                                     | 13.6                  | 66.9                      | 14.8                             |
| First transfer direction               |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Did not transfer                       | 84.8                    | 11.4        | 3.4                    | 0.4    | 12.8                                    | 2.4                   | 47.7                      | 37.2                             |
| Downward transfer                      | 84.4                    | 12.3        | 3.3                    | 0.0    | 8.0                                     | 7.5                   | 60.0                      | 24.5                             |
| Upward or lateral transfer             | 81.0                    | 5.5         | 13.2                   | 0.2    | 3.8                                     | 15.3                  | 68.8                      | 12.2                             |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998     |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Continuously enrolled                  | 83.4                    | 10.5        | 5.7                    | 0.4    | 12.1                                    | 4.6                   | 49.9                      | 33.4                             |
| Not continuously enrolled              | 88.2                    | 10.0        | 1.8                    | 0.0    | 5.3                                     | 6.5                   | 61.9                      | 26.3                             |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 1.3—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total   | 84.3                    | 10.3        | 5.1                | 0.4               | 11.0                                    | 4.9                | 51.9                | 32.3                    |
| Gender  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Male  | 86.1                    | 8.4         | 5.1                | 0.4               | 8.7                                     | 5.4                | 53.6                | 32.3                    |
| Female  | 82.9                    | 11.7        | 5.1                | 0.3               | 12.8                                    | 4.5                | 50.4                | 32.4                    |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 18 years or younger                             | 89.5                    | 4.3         | 6.1                | 0.2               | 5.0                                     | 5.6                | 66.0                | 23.5                    |
| 19 years  | 86.3                    | 8.1         | 4.9                | 0.7               | 10.6                                    | 3.1                | 54.4                | 31.9                    |
| 20–23 years                                     | 76.0                    | 18.6        | 4.0                | 1.4               | 18.9                                    | 5.5                | 30.1                | 45.5                    |
| 24–29 years                                     | 68.0                    | 29.1        | 3.0                | 0.0               | 29.2                                    | 3.5                | 20.1                | 47.2                    |
| 30 or older                                     | 74.0                    | 23.0        | 3.0                | 0.1               | 22.6                                    | 3.7                | 19.0                | 54.8                    |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 84.7                    | 9.4         | 5.6                | 0.3               | 10.7                                    | 4.9                | 52.9                | 31.5                    |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 81.0                    | 15.1        | 4.0                | 0.0               | 13.4                                    | 6.2                | 39.8                | 40.6                    |
| Hispanic  | 82.5                    | 12.8        | 4.0                | 0.8               | 12.7                                    | 4.6                | 51.1                | 31.6                    |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 90.5                    | 5.6         | 3.4                | 0.6               | 5.0                                     | 3.3                | 63.6                | 28.1                    |
| American Indian/<br>Alaskan Native              | 91.7                    | 5.4         | 3.0                | 0.0               | 6.3                                     | 1.6                | 48.9                | 43.2                    |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Single, no children<br>(dependent)              | 88.4                    | 5.5         | 5.6                | 0.5               | 6.3                                     | 5.4                | 63.4                | 24.9                    |
| Single, no children<br>(independent)            | 76.6                    | 20.1        | 2.9                | 0.3               | 21.1                                    | 2.6                | 25.6                | 50.8                    |
| Single with children                            | 69.7                    | 24.5        | 5.8                | 0.0               | 23.4                                    | 7.3                | 22.6                | 46.7                    |
| Married   | 73.4                    | 24.1        | 2.5                | 0.0               | 25.6                                    | 1.5                | 18.5                | 54.5                    |
| Parental education                              |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| High school diploma or less                     | 79.0                    | 15.5        | 5.2                | 0.3               | 15.8                                    | 5.4                | 39.8                | 39.1                    |
| Some postsecondary                              | 85.6                    | 8.6         | 5.5                | 0.3               | 10.4                                    | 4.4                | 50.5                | 34.8                    |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 87.7                    | 4.9         | 7.0                | 0.4               | 6.1                                     | 6.2                | 63.3                | 24.5                    |
| Advanced degree                                 | 95.0                    | 1.5         | 2.9                | 0.6               | 1.9                                     | 2.8                | 78.3                | 17.0                    |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 81.4                    | 13.2        | 5.0                | 0.4               | 14.3                                    | 4.3                | 54.7                | 26.7                    |
| Student working to meet<br>expenses             | 86.5                    | 6.7         | 6.3                | 0.6               | 7.8                                     | 5.9                | 58.9                | 27.4                    |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 80.3                    | 14.2        | 5.4                | 0.1               | 14.6                                    | 5.3                | 26.4                | 53.8                    |

**Table 1.3—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics—Continued**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     | enrolled                |
| <b>Dependent family income in 1994</b>    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than \$25,000                        | 84.6                    | 8.5         | 6.3                | 0.5               | 9.0                                     | 6.6                | 54.6                | 29.8                    |
| \$25,000–44,999                           | 87.2                    | 6.7         | 5.7                | 0.4               | 7.8                                     | 4.8                | 60.5                | 27.0                    |
| \$45,000–69,999                           | 89.8                    | 4.0         | 5.7                | 0.4               | 4.6                                     | 5.7                | 62.4                | 27.2                    |
| \$70,000 or greater                       | 92.2                    | 2.6         | 4.7                | 0.5               | 3.6                                     | 4.2                | 76.8                | 15.3                    |
| <b>Independent student income in 1994</b> |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than \$6,000                         | 74.0                    | 21.6        | 4.4                | 0.0               | 20.5                                    | 5.7                | 22.8                | 51.0                    |
| \$6,000–14,999                            | 71.5                    | 23.0        | 5.4                | 0.1               | 26.4                                    | 2.4                | 23.6                | 47.7                    |
| \$15,000–24,999                           | 67.6                    | 29.6        | 2.8                | 0.0               | 27.9                                    | 5.2                | 19.9                | 47.0                    |
| \$25,000 or greater                       | 80.1                    | 17.2        | 2.5                | 0.2               | 17.8                                    | 2.4                | 20.0                | 59.8                    |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 1.4—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total                                      | 84.3                    | 10.3        | 5.1                | 0.4               | 11.0                                    | 4.9                | 51.9                | 32.3                    |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None                                       | 89.2                    | 3.6         | 6.8                | 0.4               | 4.9                                     | 5.9                | 72.8                | 16.4                    |
| One  | 85.9                    | 8.2         | 5.1                | 0.9               | 10.2                                    | 4.0                | 53.6                | 32.2                    |
| Two or three                               | 78.7                    | 18.4        | 2.8                | 0.1               | 18.1                                    | 3.6                | 29.5                | 48.8                    |
| Four or more                               | 75.1                    | 21.5        | 3.4                | 0.0               | 20.2                                    | 5.1                | 20.7                | 54.0                    |
| High school diploma or equivalency status  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| High school diploma                        | 85.9                    | 8.5         | 5.3                | 0.4               | 9.4                                     | 4.9                | 54.8                | 30.9                    |
| GED/high school equivalent*                | 70.6                    | 25.1        | 4.4                | 0.0               | 25.7                                    | 4.0                | 28.7                | 41.6                    |
| None*                                      | 69.7                    | 28.4        | 1.9                | 0.0               | 23.8                                    | 6.7                | 14.6                | 54.9                    |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment           |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not delay                              | 89.5                    | 4.4         | 6.0                | 0.1               | 5.3                                     | 5.2                | 66.4                | 23.1                    |
| Delayed*                                   | 76.4                    | 19.0        | 3.8                | 0.8               | 19.8                                    | 4.2                | 29.7                | 46.3                    |
| Attendance status when first enrolled      |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Full-time                                  | 83.1                    | 10.3        | 6.2                | 0.4               | 11.6                                    | 5.3                | 56.6                | 26.6                    |
| Part-time*                                 | 86.7                    | 10.8        | 2.4                | 0.1               | 9.6                                     | 3.7                | 39.7                | 47.0                    |
| Dependency status when first enrolled      |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Dependent                                  | 88.4                    | 5.5         | 5.6                | 0.5               | 6.3                                     | 5.4                | 63.4                | 24.9                    |
| Independent*                               | 72.6                    | 23.5        | 3.8                | 0.1               | 23.9                                    | 3.9                | 20.8                | 51.4                    |
| Number of children when first enrolled     |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None                                       | 86.5                    | 7.8         | 5.3                | 0.4               | 8.7                                     | 4.9                | 58.0                | 28.4                    |
| One or more*                               | 72.1                    | 23.7        | 4.2                | 0.0               | 23.3                                    | 5.0                | 20.6                | 51.2                    |
| Single parent status when first enrolled   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Not a single parent                        | 85.7                    | 8.8         | 5.1                | 0.4               | 9.7                                     | 4.7                | 55.2                | 30.4                    |
| Single parent*                             | 69.7                    | 24.5        | 5.8                | 0.0               | 23.4                                    | 7.3                | 22.6                | 46.7                    |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96              |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not work                               | 81.4                    | 13.2        | 5.0                | 0.4               | 14.3                                    | 4.3                | 54.7                | 26.7                    |
| Worked part time                           | 84.4                    | 7.8         | 7.3                | 0.5               | 9.4                                     | 6.4                | 58.8                | 25.4                    |
| Worked full time*                          | 83.9                    | 12.6        | 3.4                | 0.2               | 11.8                                    | 4.7                | 30.7                | 52.8                    |

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.1a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by degree program and first degree attained**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in less-than-4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total   | 76.3                    | 16.4        | 7.3                | 0.0               | 17.1                                    | 6.8                | 34.1                | 41.9                    |
| Type of first institution                           |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 2-year  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Public  | 85.1                    | 8.0         | 6.9                | 0.0               | 8.0                                     | 7.2                | 41.2                | 43.6                    |
| Private, not-for-profit                             | 56.8                    | 12.7        | 29.0               | 1.5               | 31.4                                    | 12.7               | 21.2                | 34.7                    |
| Private, for-profit                                 | 51.5                    | 25.4        | 23.1               | 0.0               | 42.5                                    | 6.6                | 14.6                | 36.3                    |
| Less-than-2-year                                    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Public  | 49.7                    | 49.7        | 0.6                | 0.0               | 46.4                                    | 3.8                | 7.0                 | 42.9                    |
| Private, for-profit                                 | 40.5                    | 59.0        | 0.6                | 0.0               | 55.7                                    | 4.6                | 5.7                 | 34.0                    |
| Level of first institution                          |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 2-year  | 82.2                    | 9.4         | 8.4                | 0.0               | 10.9                                    | 7.2                | 38.9                | 43.0                    |
| Less-than-2-year                                    | 42.6                    | 56.9        | 0.6                | 0.0               | 53.4                                    | 4.6                | 6.1                 | 36.0                    |
| Control of first institution                        |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Public  | 83.9                    | 9.5         | 6.7                | 0.0               | 9.4                                     | 7.0                | 40.0                | 43.6                    |
| Private, not-for-profit                             | 58.4                    | 14.3        | 25.9               | 1.3               | 29.5                                    | 12.8               | 20.1                | 37.6                    |
| Private, for-profit                                 | 44.3                    | 47.5        | 8.2                | 0.0               | 51.2                                    | 5.3                | 8.8                 | 34.8                    |
| Degree program at first institution                 |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Certificate   | 54.3                    | 43.6        | 2.1                | 0.0               | 41.9                                    | 4.2                | 12.0                | 41.9                    |
| Associate's degree                                  | 86.1                    | 4.3         | 9.6                | 0.0               | 6.1                                     | 8.0                | 44.0                | 42.0                    |
| Degree goal at first institution                    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None  | 86.2                    | 10.4        | 3.5                | 0.0               | 11.3                                    | 2.7                | 26.6                | 59.4                    |
| Certificate   | 47.2                    | 50.9        | 2.0                | 0.0               | 47.2                                    | 5.6                | 8.2                 | 39.0                    |
| Associate's degree                                  | 79.9                    | 6.2         | 13.9               | 0.1               | 9.2                                     | 11.3               | 37.1                | 42.4                    |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year             | 92.0                    | 2.3         | 5.6                | 0.0               | 3.3                                     | 4.9                | 60.2                | 31.7                    |
| Transfer or degree expectation                      |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| No degree, no transfer                              | 87.8                    | 11.0        | 1.3                | 0.0               | 11.7                                    | 1.0                | 23.5                | 63.8                    |
| Degree, no transfer                                 | 63.9                    | 28.2        | 7.9                | 0.1               | 29.2                                    | 6.9                | 21.3                | 42.6                    |
| Degree, transfer                                    | 82.6                    | 3.0         | 14.4               | 0.0               | 2.5                                     | 15.5               | 46.6                | 35.4                    |
| No degree, transfer                                 | 91.4                    | 2.2         | 6.4                | 0.0               | 3.1                                     | 5.6                | 56.7                | 34.6                    |

**Table 2.1a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by degree program and first degree attained—Continued**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |                        |        | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                       |                           |                                  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|------------------------|--------|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's Bachelor's |        | Attained,<br>not<br>enrolled            | Attained,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>not<br>enrolled |
|  |                         |             | degree                 | degree |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| <b>Program/field at first institution</b>      |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Vocational certificate                         | 54.3                    | 43.6        | 2.1                    | 0.0    | 41.9                                    | 4.2                   | 12.0                      | 41.9                             |
| Associate's applied fields                     | 80.7                    | 5.7         | 13.5                   | 0.1    | 10.6                                    | 9.0                   | 38.2                      | 42.3                             |
| Associate's liberal arts/<br>uncertain         | 91.3                    | 2.9         | 5.7                    | 0.0    | 1.7                                     | 7.1                   | 49.7                      | 41.7                             |
| <b>Purpose for enrolling</b>                   |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Job skills                                     | 63.1                    | 31.5        | 5.5                    | 0.0    | 31.9                                    | 5.3                   | 15.4                      | 47.4                             |
| Degree or certificate                          | 76.5                    | 14.7        | 8.9                    | 0.0    | 17.5                                    | 6.2                   | 31.6                      | 44.7                             |
| Transfer to 4-year                             | 85.7                    | 2.3         | 12.0                   | 0.0    | 2.5                                     | 12.2                  | 56.1                      | 29.2                             |
| Other  | 79.8                    | 13.6        | 6.5                    | 0.2    | 15.6                                    | 5.0                   | 26.1                      | 53.4                             |
| <b>First sub-baccalaureate degree attained</b> |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| None   | 100.0                   | †           | †                      | †      | †                                       | †                     | 44.8                      | 55.2                             |
| Certificate                                    | †                       | 97.5        | 2.4                    | 0.1    | 82.9                                    | 17.1                  | †                         | †                                |
| Associate's degree                             | †                       | †           | 100.0                  | †      | 43.5                                    | 56.5                  | †                         | †                                |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.1b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by attendance patterns through 1998**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in less-than-4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total   | 76.3                    | 16.4        | 7.3                | 0.0               | 17.1                                    | 6.8                | 34.1                | 41.9                    |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998              |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than 12 months                                 | 77.7                    | 21.6        | 0.7                | 0.0               | 21.2                                    | 1.1                | 3.8                 | 73.9                    |
| 12–24 months  | 70.4                    | 21.9        | 7.7                | 0.1               | 26.0                                    | 3.6                | 29.7                | 40.8                    |
| 25 months or more                                   | 79.3                    | 5.8         | 14.9               | 0.0               | 3.9                                     | 16.8               | 75.1                | 4.2                     |
| Intensity pattern through 1998                      |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Always full-time                                    | 63.4                    | 23.5        | 13.0               | 0.0               | 27.5                                    | 9.1                | 26.7                | 36.7                    |
| Mixed   | 82.8                    | 12.0        | 5.1                | 0.1               | 10.1                                    | 7.1                | 52.6                | 30.1                    |
| Always part-time                                    | 88.6                    | 11.4        | 0.1                | 0.0               | 9.3                                     | 2.2                | 18.5                | 70.1                    |
| Academic year of last enrollment                    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 1995–96   | 82.3                    | 17.1        | 0.6                | 0.0               | 17.7                                    | †                  | †                   | 82.3                    |
| 1996–97   | 57.6                    | 34.5        | 7.9                | 0.1               | 42.4                                    | †                  | †                   | 57.6                    |
| 1997–98   | 79.9                    | 9.1         | 11.0               | 0.0               | 6.5                                     | 13.6               | 67.9                | 12.0                    |
| Transfer status through 1998                        |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not transfer                                    | 76.9                    | 18.7        | 4.5                | 0.0               | 20.2                                    | 2.9                | 26.9                | 50.0                    |
| Transferred   | 73.1                    | 9.7         | 17.1               | 0.1               | 6.4                                     | 20.6               | 59.4                | 13.7                    |
| First transfer direction                            |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not transfer                                    | 76.9                    | 18.7        | 4.5                | 0.0               | 20.2                                    | 2.9                | 26.9                | 50.0                    |
| Downward transfer                                   | 55.8                    | 39.9        | 4.2                | 0.0               | 25.5                                    | 18.7               | 29.2                | 26.6                    |
| Upward or lateral transfer                          | 74.3                    | 7.5         | 18.1               | 0.1               | 5.0                                     | 20.7               | 61.5                | 12.8                    |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998                  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Continuously enrolled                               | 74.1                    | 17.4        | 8.5                | 0.0               | 19.5                                    | 6.4                | 28.9                | 45.2                    |
| Not continuously enrolled                           | 84.6                    | 13.6        | 1.8                | 0.0               | 6.9                                     | 8.6                | 56.4                | 28.2                    |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.1c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in less-than-4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total   | 76.3                    | 16.4        | 7.3                | 0.0               | 17.1                                    | 6.8                | 34.1                | 41.9                    |
| Gender  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Male  | 79.5                    | 13.0        | 7.4                | 0.1               | 13.2                                    | 7.5                | 38.4                | 40.8                    |
| Female  | 73.9                    | 18.9        | 7.2                | 0.0               | 20.1                                    | 6.3                | 30.6                | 43.0                    |
| Age when first enrolled                             |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 18 years or younger                                 | 79.8                    | 8.5         | 11.7               | 0.0               | 10.1                                    | 10.1               | 45.3                | 34.5                    |
| 19 years  | 82.4                    | 11.6        | 6.0                | 0.0               | 14.2                                    | 3.6                | 44.9                | 37.5                    |
| 20–23 years   | 73.2                    | 22.3        | 4.4                | 0.2               | 20.5                                    | 6.7                | 25.5                | 47.4                    |
| 24–29 years   | 65.8                    | 31.9        | 2.3                | 0.0               | 31.6                                    | 3.4                | 16.7                | 48.3                    |
| 30 or older   | 71.9                    | 25.2        | 2.9                | 0.0               | 24.5                                    | 3.8                | 16.4                | 55.3                    |
| Race/ethnicity                                      |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| White, non-Hispanic                                 | 76.2                    | 15.5        | 8.3                | 0.0               | 17.1                                    | 7.2                | 34.6                | 41.1                    |
| Black, non-Hispanic                                 | 73.1                    | 21.3        | 5.6                | 0.0               | 18.8                                    | 8.7                | 23.6                | 49.0                    |
| Hispanic  | 76.9                    | 18.2        | 4.9                | 0.0               | 18.0                                    | 4.9                | 38.4                | 38.8                    |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                              | 83.0                    | 11.7        | 5.4                | 0.0               | 10.3                                    | 5.0                | 37.9                | 46.8                    |
| American Indian/<br>Alaskan Native                  | 90.3                    | 7.7         | 2.0                | 0.0               | 9.1                                     | 0.0                | 34.7                | 56.2                    |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled     |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Single, no children<br>(dependent)                  | 79.9                    | 10.2        | 9.9                | 0.0               | 11.3                                    | 9.0                | 45.0                | 34.7                    |
| Single, no children<br>(independent)                | 73.3                    | 24.1        | 2.5                | 0.0               | 24.2                                    | 2.6                | 16.7                | 56.4                    |
| Single with children                                | 67.7                    | 26.2        | 6.1                | 0.0               | 25.2                                    | 7.6                | 20.4                | 46.9                    |
| Married   | 70.7                    | 27.0        | 2.4                | 0.0               | 28.4                                    | 1.5                | 15.7                | 54.5                    |
| Parental education                                  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| High school diploma or less                         | 72.7                    | 20.9        | 6.4                | 0.0               | 20.7                                    | 6.7                | 28.8                | 43.8                    |
| Some postsecondary                                  | 80.5                    | 12.7        | 6.9                | 0.0               | 14.7                                    | 5.4                | 38.2                | 41.7                    |
| Bachelor's degree                                   | 78.9                    | 8.6         | 12.4               | 0.2               | 10.5                                    | 10.8               | 43.4                | 35.3                    |
| Advanced degree                                     | 87.8                    | 3.6         | 8.7                | 0.0               | 4.8                                     | 6.6                | 49.1                | 39.5                    |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                       |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not work while enrolled                         | 67.1                    | 25.2        | 7.8                | 0.0               | 26.8                                    | 6.4                | 26.3                | 40.5                    |
| Student working to meet<br>expenses                 | 79.4                    | 11.0        | 9.6                | 0.1               | 11.9                                    | 9.1                | 43.6                | 35.4                    |
| Employee who is enrolled                            | 77.8                    | 16.2        | 6.0                | 0.0               | 16.5                                    | 5.7                | 22.1                | 55.7                    |

**Table 2.1c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics—Continued**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     | enrolled                |
| <b>Dependent family income in 1994</b>    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than \$25,000                        | 77.2                    | 13.5        | 9.3                | 0.0               | 13.6                                    | 9.4                | 40.6                | 36.4                    |
| \$25,000–44,999                           | 79.8                    | 11.1        | 9.1                | 0.0               | 12.4                                    | 7.3                | 47.5                | 32.8                    |
| \$45,000–69,999                           | 82.1                    | 7.7         | 10.3               | 0.0               | 7.8                                     | 10.6               | 39.2                | 42.5                    |
| \$70,000 or greater                       | 82.3                    | 5.8         | 11.7               | 0.2               | 9.9                                     | 8.6                | 57.9                | 23.5                    |
| <b>Independent student income in 1994</b> |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than \$6,000                         | 70.9                    | 24.4        | 4.7                | 0.0               | 22.9                                    | 6.5                | 18.6                | 52.0                    |
| \$6,000–14,999                            | 69.2                    | 25.6        | 5.3                | 0.0               | 28.5                                    | 2.3                | 20.1                | 49.1                    |
| \$15,000–24,999                           | 64.8                    | 32.6        | 2.7                | 0.0               | 30.7                                    | 5.2                | 16.0                | 48.0                    |
| \$25,000 or greater                       | 78.7                    | 18.8        | 2.5                | 0.0               | 19.3                                    | 2.3                | 17.2                | 61.2                    |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.1d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
|---|---|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
|   | Highest degree attained                 |             |                       |                      | Attained,<br>not<br>enrolled | Attained,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>not<br>enrolled |
|   | None                                    | Certificate | Associate's<br>degree | Bachelor's<br>degree |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Students who began in less-than-4-year institutions |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Total   | 76.3                                    | 16.4        | 7.3                   | 0.0                  | 17.1                         | 6.8                   | 34.1                      | 41.9                             |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled          |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| None  | 71.7                                    | 9.8         | 18.6                  | 0.0                  | 13.5                         | 15.0                  | 47.6                      | 24.0                             |
| One   | 82.7                                    | 10.9        | 6.2                   | 0.1                  | 13.0                         | 4.4                   | 47.0                      | 35.7                             |
| Two or three  | 76.8                                    | 20.5        | 2.7                   | 0.0                  | 19.8                         | 3.9                   | 25.6                      | 50.7                             |
| Four or more  | 73.1                                    | 23.4        | 3.5                   | 0.0                  | 21.9                         | 5.4                   | 18.6                      | 54.1                             |
| High school diploma or equivalency status           |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| High school diploma                                 | 77.9                                    | 14.1        | 8.0                   | 0.0                  | 15.2                         | 7.1                   | 36.3                      | 41.3                             |
| GED/high school equivalent*                         | 68.1                                    | 28.0        | 3.9                   | 0.0                  | 27.7                         | 4.4                   | 25.8                      | 42.2                             |
| None*   | 68.6                                    | 29.4        | 1.9                   | 0.0                  | 24.7                         | 6.9                   | 12.5                      | 55.9                             |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment                    |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Did not delay                                       | 80.5                                    | 8.5         | 11.1                  | 0.0                  | 10.3                         | 9.3                   | 47.5                      | 32.9                             |
| Delayed*  | 72.9                                    | 23.2        | 3.9                   | 0.1                  | 23.1                         | 4.5                   | 22.6                      | 49.8                             |
| Attendance status when first enrolled               |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Full-time   | 69.5                                    | 20.0        | 10.5                  | 0.0                  | 21.7                         | 8.8                   | 32.4                      | 37.2                             |
| Part-time*  | 85.6                                    | 11.8        | 2.5                   | 0.1                  | 10.5                         | 3.9                   | 36.8                      | 48.9                             |
| Dependency status when first enrolled               |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Dependent   | 79.9                                    | 10.2        | 9.9                   | 0.0                  | 11.3                         | 9.0                   | 45.0                      | 34.7                             |
| Independent*  | 70.0                                    | 26.2        | 3.8                   | 0.0                  | 26.4                         | 4.0                   | 16.9                      | 52.7                             |
| Number of children when first enrolled              |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| None  | 78.0                                    | 13.6        | 8.4                   | 0.0                  | 14.7                         | 7.5                   | 38.9                      | 38.9                             |
| One or more*  | 69.8                                    | 25.7        | 4.4                   | 0.0                  | 25.4                         | 5.2                   | 18.3                      | 51.1                             |
| Single parent status when first enrolled            |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Not a single parent                                 | 77.5                                    | 14.9        | 7.6                   | 0.0                  | 16.0                         | 6.9                   | 36.2                      | 41.0                             |
| Single parent*                                      | 67.7                                    | 26.2        | 6.1                   | 0.0                  | 25.2                         | 7.6                   | 20.4                      | 46.9                             |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96                       |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Did not work  | 67.1                                    | 25.2        | 7.8                   | 0.0                  | 26.8                         | 6.4                   | 26.3                      | 40.5                             |
| Worked part time                                    | 75.3                                    | 13.2        | 11.5                  | 0.1                  | 15.1                         | 9.9                   | 42.8                      | 32.2                             |
| Worked full time*                                   | 81.5                                    | 14.8        | 3.8                   | 0.0                  | 13.5                         | 5.4                   | 25.0                      | 56.1                             |

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.2a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in public less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by degree program and first degree attained**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |             |            | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                       |                           |                                  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's | Bachelor's | Attained,<br>not<br>enrolled            | Attained,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>not<br>enrolled |
|  |                         |             | degree      | degree     |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Students who began in public less-than-4-year institutions |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Total  | 83.9                    | 9.5         | 6.7         | 0.0        | 9.4                                     | 7.0                   | 40.0                      | 43.6                             |
| Level of first institution                                 |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| 2-year   | 85.1                    | 8.0         | 6.9         | 0.0        | 8.0                                     | 7.2                   | 41.2                      | 43.6                             |
| Less-than-2-year   | 49.7                    | 49.7        | 0.6         | 0.0        | 46.4                                    | 3.8                   | 7.0                       | 42.9                             |
| Degree program at first institution                        |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Certificate  | 66.2                    | 31.5        | 2.4         | 0.0        | 30.6                                    | 3.5                   | 17.3                      | 48.7                             |
| Associate's degree   | 88.3                    | 4.0         | 7.7         | 0.0        | 4.0                                     | 7.9                   | 45.8                      | 42.3                             |
| Degree goal at first institution                           |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| None   | 92.2                    | 3.5         | 4.3         | 0.0        | 5.1                                     | 2.9                   | 30.8                      | 61.2                             |
| Certificate  | 56.8                    | 40.5        | 2.7         | 0.0        | 38.1                                    | 5.1                   | 11.1                      | 45.7                             |
| Associate's degree   | 83.5                    | 5.7         | 10.8        | 0.0        | 5.4                                     | 11.5                  | 39.5                      | 43.7                             |
| Bachelor's degree or<br>transfer to 4-year                 | 92.8                    | 2.3         | 4.9         | 0.0        | 2.4                                     | 4.9                   | 60.9                      | 31.8                             |
| Transfer or degree expectation                             |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| No degree, no transfer                                     | 95.1                    | 3.4         | 1.5         | 0.0        | 4.4                                     | 0.8                   | 27.3                      | 67.6                             |
| Degree, no transfer  | 74.4                    | 18.8        | 6.8         | 0.0        | 18.4                                    | 7.2                   | 27.5                      | 46.8                             |
| Degree, transfer   | 83.8                    | 2.8         | 13.4        | 0.0        | 1.6                                     | 15.3                  | 47.4                      | 35.7                             |
| No degree, transfer  | 92.1                    | 2.0         | 5.9         | 0.0        | 2.3                                     | 5.7                   | 57.5                      | 34.5                             |
| Program/field at first institution                         |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Vocational certificate                                     | 66.2                    | 31.5        | 2.4         | 0.0        | 30.6                                    | 3.5                   | 17.3                      | 48.7                             |
| Associate's applied fields                                 | 84.4                    | 5.3         | 10.3        | 0.0        | 6.8                                     | 9.1                   | 41.1                      | 43.1                             |
| Associate's liberal arts/<br>uncertain                     | 91.5                    | 2.9         | 5.6         | 0.0        | 1.6                                     | 7.0                   | 49.8                      | 41.7                             |
| Purpose for enrolling                                      |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Job skills   | 77.2                    | 18.6        | 4.2         | 0.0        | 17.6                                    | 5.3                   | 20.8                      | 56.3                             |
| Degree or certificate                                      | 82.5                    | 11.1        | 6.5         | 0.0        | 11.3                                    | 6.3                   | 36.1                      | 46.3                             |
| Transfer to 4-year   | 86.4                    | 2.1         | 11.5        | 0.0        | 2.1                                     | 12.1                  | 56.6                      | 29.3                             |
| Other  | 84.8                    | 10.4        | 4.8         | 0.0        | 10.7                                    | 4.9                   | 28.8                      | 55.6                             |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained                    |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| None   | 100.0                   | †           | †           | †          | †                                       | †                     | 47.8                      | 52.2                             |
| Certificate  | †                       | 98.3        | 1.7         | †          | 73.7                                    | 26.3                  | †                         | †                                |
| Associate's degree   | †                       | †           | 100.0       | †          | 31.9                                    | 68.1                  | †                         | †                                |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.2b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in public less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by attendance patterns through 1998**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in public less-than-4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total  | 83.9                    | 9.5         | 6.7                | 0.0               | 9.4                                     | 7.0                | 40.0                | 43.6                    |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998                     |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than 12 months  | 86.9                    | 12.8        | 0.3                | 0.0               | 12.5                                    | 0.6                | 4.1                 | 82.8                    |
| 12–24 months   | 82.1                    | 12.6        | 5.2                | 0.0               | 14.9                                    | 3.0                | 34.9                | 47.2                    |
| 25 months or more  | 81.6                    | 4.6         | 13.8               | 0.0               | 2.1                                     | 16.2               | 77.5                | 4.1                     |
| Intensity pattern through 1998                             |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Always full-time   | 73.1                    | 12.7        | 14.2               | 0.0               | 15.9                                    | 11.0               | 36.7                | 36.4                    |
| Mixed  | 87.1                    | 8.2         | 4.8                | 0.0               | 6.1                                     | 6.8                | 55.7                | 31.4                    |
| Always part-time   | 91.7                    | 8.3         | 0.0                | 0.0               | 6.1                                     | 2.3                | 19.7                | 72.0                    |
| Academic year of last enrollment                           |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 1995–96  | 88.0                    | 11.6        | 0.4                | 0.0               | 12.0                                    | †                  | †                   | 88.0                    |
| 1996–97  | 74.8                    | 18.9        | 6.3                | 0.0               | 25.2                                    | †                  | †                   | 74.8                    |
| 1997–98  | 84.2                    | 5.9         | 9.9                | 0.0               | 3.1                                     | 12.7               | 72.2                | 12.0                    |
| Transfer status through 1998                               |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not transfer   | 85.8                    | 11.2        | 3.0                | 0.0               | 11.0                                    | 3.2                | 32.7                | 53.1                    |
| Transferred  | 76.8                    | 5.2         | 18.0               | 0.0               | 4.3                                     | 19.0               | 62.5                | 14.3                    |
| First transfer direction                                   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not transfer   | 85.8                    | 11.2        | 3.0                | 0.0               | 11.0                                    | 3.2                | 32.7                | 53.1                    |
| Downward transfer  | —                       | —           | —                  | —                 | —                                       | —                  | —                   | —                       |
| Upward or lateral transfer                                 | 78.0                    | 3.1         | 18.9               | 0.0               | 2.8                                     | 19.2               | 64.9                | 13.1                    |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998                         |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Continuously enrolled                                      | 82.0                    | 10.1        | 7.8                | 0.0               | 10.7                                    | 7.3                | 35.0                | 47.1                    |
| Not continuously enrolled                                  | 90.0                    | 8.1         | 2.0                | 0.0               | 3.9                                     | 6.1                | 60.4                | 29.6                    |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.2c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in public less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     | enrolled                |
| Students who began in public less-than-4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total  | 83.9                    | 9.5         | 6.7                | 0.0               | 9.4                                     | 7.0                | 40.0                | 43.6                    |
| Gender   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Male   | 84.7                    | 9.0         | 6.2                | 0.0               | 7.6                                     | 7.9                | 43.2                | 41.3                    |
| Female   | 83.1                    | 9.9         | 7.1                | 0.0               | 11.0                                    | 6.3                | 37.0                | 45.8                    |
| Age when first enrolled                                    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 18 years or younger  | 83.3                    | 6.0         | 10.8               | 0.0               | 6.8                                     | 10.3               | 48.6                | 34.4                    |
| 19 years   | 91.0                    | 4.4         | 4.6                | 0.0               | 5.8                                     | 3.5                | 51.6                | 39.2                    |
| 20–23 years  | 87.9                    | 8.2         | 3.9                | 0.0               | 4.5                                     | 7.9                | 33.7                | 54.0                    |
| 24–29 years  | 73.0                    | 26.0        | 0.9                | 0.0               | 26.0                                    | 1.6                | 20.8                | 51.6                    |
| 30 or older  | 83.2                    | 14.9        | 1.9                | 0.0               | 12.8                                    | 3.8                | 21.4                | 62.0                    |
| Race/ethnicity   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| White, non-Hispanic  | 82.1                    | 10.2        | 7.7                | 0.0               | 10.8                                    | 7.4                | 39.2                | 42.6                    |
| Black, non-Hispanic  | 81.6                    | 12.8        | 5.6                | 0.0               | 10.6                                    | 8.5                | 28.8                | 52.2                    |
| Hispanic   | 90.8                    | 6.2         | 3.0                | 0.0               | 3.8                                     | 5.4                | 48.7                | 42.1                    |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                                     | 93.0                    | 2.4         | 4.6                | 0.0               | 0.1                                     | 4.3                | 47.1                | 48.5                    |
| American Indian/<br>Alaskan Native                         | —                       | —           | —                  | —                 | —                                       | —                  | —                   | —                       |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled            |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Single, no children<br>(dependent)                         | 85.1                    | 5.8         | 9.1                | 0.0               | 6.1                                     | 9.1                | 49.2                | 35.6                    |
| Single, no children<br>(independent)                       | 88.2                    | 10.6        | 1.2                | 0.0               | 9.4                                     | 2.5                | 20.2                | 67.9                    |
| Single with children                                       | 79.4                    | 15.4        | 5.3                | 0.0               | 13.9                                    | 7.4                | 29.3                | 49.4                    |
| Married  | 76.8                    | 21.7        | 1.5                | 0.0               | 22.6                                    | 0.9                | 18.9                | 57.7                    |
| Parental education   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| High school diploma or less                                | 82.2                    | 12.2        | 5.6                | 0.0               | 10.9                                    | 7.1                | 35.1                | 46.9                    |
| Some postsecondary   | 87.1                    | 7.3         | 5.6                | 0.0               | 8.6                                     | 4.9                | 43.4                | 43.2                    |
| Bachelor's degree  | 82.2                    | 5.2         | 12.6               | 0.0               | 6.6                                     | 11.2               | 46.9                | 35.3                    |
| Advanced degree  | 92.3                    | 0.8         | 6.9                | 0.0               | 1.6                                     | 6.5                | 51.5                | 40.4                    |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                              |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not work while enrolled                                | 79.5                    | 12.8        | 7.7                | 0.0               | 13.6                                    | 7.3                | 36.5                | 42.6                    |
| Student working to meet<br>expenses                        | 85.4                    | 6.6         | 8.0                | 0.0               | 5.7                                     | 9.3                | 48.1                | 37.0                    |
| Employee who is enrolled                                   | 81.8                    | 12.3        | 5.9                | 0.0               | 12.2                                    | 5.9                | 24.2                | 57.7                    |

**Table 2.2c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in public less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics—Continued**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     | enrolled                |
| <b>Dependent family income in 1994</b>    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than \$25,000                        | 84.0                    | 6.9         | 9.1                | 0.0               | 6.5                                     | 9.8                | 46.4                | 37.4                    |
| \$25,000–44,999                           | 86.4                    | 5.9         | 7.7                | 0.0               | 6.2                                     | 7.2                | 52.5                | 34.2                    |
| \$45,000–69,999                           | 84.5                    | 6.0         | 9.5                | 0.0               | 4.9                                     | 11.0               | 41.0                | 43.2                    |
| \$70,000 or greater                       | 85.6                    | 3.6         | 10.9               | 0.0               | 6.9                                     | 8.4                | 60.8                | 23.9                    |
| <b>Independent student income in 1994</b> |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than \$6,000                         | 85.8                    | 11.2        | 3.0                | 0.0               | 9.3                                     | 5.2                | 27.6                | 57.9                    |
| \$6,000–14,999                            | 81.0                    | 14.9        | 4.2                | 0.0               | 17.1                                    | 2.2                | 25.8                | 54.9                    |
| \$15,000–24,999                           | 69.2                    | 28.4        | 2.4                | 0.0               | 25.6                                    | 6.0                | 18.2                | 50.2                    |
| \$25,000 or greater                       | 89.7                    | 9.6         | 0.8                | 0.0               | 9.2                                     | 1.1                | 21.6                | 68.2                    |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.2d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in public less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in public less-than-4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total  | 83.9                    | 9.5         | 6.7                | 0.0               | 9.4                                     | 7.0                | 40.0                | 43.6                    |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled                 |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None   | 75.7                    | 5.9         | 18.4               | 0.0               | 8.7                                     | 16.0               | 52.1                | 23.2                    |
| One  | 90.4                    | 4.5         | 5.0                | 0.0               | 5.7                                     | 3.8                | 53.9                | 36.6                    |
| Two or three   | 86.1                    | 12.7        | 1.3                | 0.0               | 10.5                                    | 3.8                | 30.5                | 55.2                    |
| Four or more   | 81.4                    | 15.6        | 3.0                | 0.0               | 14.0                                    | 5.0                | 23.1                | 57.9                    |
| High school diploma or equivalency status                  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| High school diploma  | 84.7                    | 8.1         | 7.2                | 0.0               | 8.1                                     | 7.4                | 41.4                | 43.0                    |
| GED/high school equivalent*                                | 77.4                    | 19.8        | 2.8                | 0.0               | 19.6                                    | 3.2                | 33.8                | 43.5                    |
| None*  | 79.3                    | 17.5        | 3.2                | 0.0               | 13.1                                    | 7.7                | 19.7                | 59.5                    |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment                           |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not delay  | 84.7                    | 5.3         | 10.1               | 0.0               | 6.2                                     | 9.5                | 51.3                | 33.1                    |
| Delayed*   | 83.3                    | 13.9        | 2.9                | 0.0               | 12.9                                    | 4.2                | 28.2                | 54.8                    |
| Attendance status when first enrolled                      |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Full-time  | 79.2                    | 10.3        | 10.5               | 0.0               | 11.2                                    | 9.6                | 41.0                | 38.1                    |
| Part-time*   | 88.7                    | 9.0         | 2.3                | 0.0               | 7.3                                     | 4.0                | 38.9                | 49.8                    |
| Dependency status when first enrolled                      |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Dependent  | 85.1                    | 5.8         | 9.1                | 0.0               | 6.1                                     | 9.1                | 49.2                | 35.6                    |
| Independent*   | 80.1                    | 17.2        | 2.7                | 0.0               | 16.8                                    | 3.5                | 21.6                | 58.1                    |
| Number of children when first enrolled                     |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None   | 84.6                    | 7.7         | 7.7                | 0.0               | 7.8                                     | 7.8                | 43.9                | 40.5                    |
| One or more*   | 79.4                    | 16.8        | 3.8                | 0.0               | 16.5                                    | 4.7                | 24.3                | 54.6                    |
| Single parent status when first enrolled                   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Not a single parent  | 84.1                    | 8.8         | 7.1                | 0.0               | 9.1                                     | 7.1                | 41.3                | 42.6                    |
| Single parent*   | 79.4                    | 15.4        | 5.3                | 0.0               | 13.9                                    | 7.4                | 29.3                | 49.4                    |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96                              |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not work   | 79.5                    | 12.8        | 7.7                | 0.0               | 13.6                                    | 7.3                | 36.5                | 42.6                    |
| Worked part time   | 81.1                    | 8.2         | 10.7               | 0.0               | 8.7                                     | 10.4               | 48.0                | 32.9                    |
| Worked full time*  | 86.2                    | 11.1        | 2.7                | 0.0               | 8.9                                     | 5.3                | 27.1                | 58.8                    |

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.3a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by degree program and first degree attained**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total   | 44.3                    | 47.5        | 8.2                | 0.0               | 51.2                                    | 5.3                | 8.8                 | 34.8                    |
| Level of first institution  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 2-year  | 51.5                    | 25.4        | 23.1               | 0.0               | 42.5                                    | 6.6                | 14.6                | 36.3                    |
| Less-than-2-year  | 40.5                    | 59.0        | 0.6                | 0.0               | 55.7                                    | 4.6                | 5.7                 | 34.0                    |
| Degree program at first institution                                     |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Certificate   | 40.7                    | 57.6        | 1.7                | 0.0               | 55.3                                    | 5.0                | 5.9                 | 33.9                    |
| Associate's degree  | 58.5                    | 7.1         | 34.4               | 0.0               | 35.0                                    | 6.6                | 20.1                | 38.4                    |
| Degree goal at first institution  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None  | 63.6                    | 36.1        | 0.3                | 0.0               | 35.2                                    | 1.8                | 10.1                | 52.9                    |
| Certificate   | 36.9                    | 62.2        | 1.0                | 0.0               | 57.7                                    | 5.9                | 4.8                 | 31.7                    |
| Associate's degree  | 48.5                    | 10.0        | 41.5               | 0.0               | 43.4                                    | 7.9                | 16.7                | 32.1                    |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year                                 | —                       | —           | —                  | —                 | —                                       | —                  | —                   | —                       |
| Transfer or degree expectation  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| No degree, no transfer  | 59.4                    | 40.2        | 0.4                | 0.0               | 39.6                                    | 1.8                | 9.6                 | 49.1                    |
| Degree, no transfer   | 40.6                    | 50.8        | 8.6                | 0.0               | 53.7                                    | 5.9                | 7.0                 | 33.4                    |
| Degree, transfer  | —                       | —           | —                  | —                 | —                                       | —                  | —                   | —                       |
| No degree, transfer   | —                       | —           | —                  | —                 | —                                       | —                  | —                   | —                       |
| Program/field at first institution                                      |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Vocational certificate  | 40.7                    | 57.6        | 1.7                | 0.0               | 55.3                                    | 5.0                | 5.9                 | 33.9                    |
| Associate's applied fields  | 58.5                    | 7.1         | 34.4               | 0.0               | 35.0                                    | 6.6                | 20.1                | 38.4                    |
| Associate's liberal arts/uncertain                                      | —                       | —           | —                  | —                 | —                                       | —                  | —                   | —                       |
| Purpose for enrolling   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Job skills  | 39.8                    | 54.1        | 6.2                | 0.0               | 55.6                                    | 5.2                | 6.5                 | 32.6                    |
| Degree or certificate   | 43.6                    | 36.5        | 19.9               | 0.0               | 53.1                                    | 3.6                | 5.6                 | 37.7                    |
| Transfer to 4-year  | —                       | —           | —                  | —                 | —                                       | —                  | —                   | —                       |
| Other   | 52.3                    | 33.8        | 13.9               | 0.0               | 42.8                                    | 4.6                | 10.0                | 42.5                    |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained                                 |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None  | 100.0                   | †           | †                  | †                 | †                                       | †                  | 20.2                | 79.8                    |
| Certificate   | †                       | 97.1        | 2.9                | †                 | 91.6                                    | 8.5                | †                   | †                       |
| Associate's degree  | †                       | †           | 100.0              | †                 | 84.1                                    | 15.9               | †                   | †                       |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.3b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by attendance patterns through 1998**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total   | 44.3                    | 47.5        | 8.2                | 0.0               | 51.2                                    | 5.3                | 8.8                 | 34.8                    |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998                                  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than 12 months   | 51.9                    | 46.6        | 1.5                | 0.0               | 45.4                                    | 2.6                | 2.6                 | 49.4                    |
| 12–24 months  | 29.2                    | 57.0        | 13.8               | 0.0               | 65.1                                    | 5.7                | 11.1                | 18.1                    |
| 25 months or more   | 45.2                    | 25.7        | 29.1               | 0.0               | 33.6                                    | 21.2               | 41.0                | 4.2                     |
| Intensity pattern through 1998  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Always full-time  | 45.2                    | 45.8        | 9.0                | 0.0               | 49.8                                    | 4.9                | 7.9                 | 37.3                    |
| Mixed   | 32.3                    | 59.7        | 7.9                | 0.0               | 58.2                                    | 9.4                | 16.7                | 15.7                    |
| Always part-time  | 47.3                    | 52.0        | 0.7                | 0.0               | 51.1                                    | 1.7                | 3.5                 | 43.8                    |
| Academic year of last enrollment  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 1995–96   | 63.8                    | 35.4        | 0.9                | 0.0               | 36.2                                    | †                  | †                   | 63.8                    |
| 1996–97   | 19.6                    | 71.2        | 9.3                | 0.0               | 80.4                                    | †                  | †                   | 19.6                    |
| 1997–98   | 45.1                    | 38.0        | 17.0               | 0.0               | 35.3                                    | 19.6               | 32.7                | 12.4                    |
| Transfer status through 1998  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not transfer  | 43.8                    | 47.8        | 8.4                | 0.0               | 54.3                                    | 1.9                | 5.9                 | 37.9                    |
| Transferred   | 41.5                    | 52.9        | 5.6                | 0.0               | 25.5                                    | 33.0               | 32.6                | 8.9                     |
| First transfer direction  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not transfer  | 43.8                    | 47.8        | 8.4                | 0.0               | 54.3                                    | 1.9                | 5.9                 | 37.9                    |
| Downward transfer   | —                       | —           | —                  | —                 | —                                       | —                  | —                   | —                       |
| Upward or lateral transfer  | 42.9                    | 51.0        | 6.1                | 0.0               | 24.4                                    | 32.7               | 33.2                | 9.7                     |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998                                      |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Continuously enrolled   | 41.9                    | 48.8        | 9.3                | 0.0               | 55.9                                    | 2.3                | 4.3                 | 37.5                    |
| Not continuously enrolled   | 53.4                    | 45.6        | 1.0                | 0.0               | 24.2                                    | 22.4               | 34.4                | 19.0                    |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.3c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total   | 44.3                    | 47.5        | 8.2                | 0.0               | 51.2                                    | 5.3                | 8.8                 | 34.8                    |
| Gender  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Male  | 44.8                    | 42.1        | 13.2               | 0.0               | 51.4                                    | 4.0                | 7.3                 | 37.3                    |
| Female  | 44.7                    | 49.1        | 6.2                | 0.0               | 50.3                                    | 5.9                | 9.6                 | 34.2                    |
| Age when first enrolled   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 18 years or younger   | 52.6                    | 30.4        | 17.0               | 0.0               | 39.0                                    | 7.7                | 17.2                | 36.1                    |
| 19 years  | 40.7                    | 50.4        | 8.8                | 0.0               | 56.5                                    | 2.9                | 12.4                | 28.3                    |
| 20–23 years   | 42.8                    | 52.9        | 4.3                | 0.0               | 53.6                                    | 3.7                | 8.4                 | 34.4                    |
| 24–29 years   | 43.4                    | 50.7        | 5.8                | 0.0               | 49.2                                    | 8.6                | 4.5                 | 37.7                    |
| 30 or older   | 40.3                    | 55.0        | 4.7                | 0.0               | 58.2                                    | 3.8                | 2.1                 | 36.0                    |
| Race/ethnicity  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| White, non-Hispanic   | 42.6                    | 47.2        | 10.2               | 0.0               | 54.1                                    | 4.9                | 8.2                 | 32.9                    |
| Black, non-Hispanic   | 51.3                    | 43.9        | 4.7                | 0.0               | 40.2                                    | 8.9                | 10.1                | 40.7                    |
| Hispanic  | 38.8                    | 52.6        | 8.6                | 0.0               | 57.4                                    | 2.9                | 10.2                | 29.5                    |
| Asian/Pacific Islander  | 48.1                    | 49.9        | 2.0                | 0.0               | 43.6                                    | 9.0                | 3.1                 | 44.4                    |
| American Indian/<br>Alaskan Native                                      | —                       | —           | —                  | —                 | —                                       | —                  | —                   | —                       |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled                         |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Single, no children<br>(dependent)                                      | 41.2                    | 46.3        | 12.5               | 0.0               | 52.8                                    | 6.3                | 13.3                | 27.6                    |
| Single, no children<br>(independent)                                    | 31.5                    | 63.0        | 5.6                | 0.0               | 66.6                                    | 3.0                | 6.1                 | 24.3                    |
| Single with children  | 46.7                    | 46.0        | 7.2                | 0.0               | 45.5                                    | 7.8                | 4.2                 | 42.5                    |
| Married   | 53.3                    | 43.5        | 3.3                | 0.0               | 45.5                                    | 3.2                | 5.7                 | 45.6                    |
| Parental education  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| High school diploma or less   | 39.2                    | 52.7        | 8.1                | 0.0               | 56.2                                    | 4.8                | 7.0                 | 32.1                    |
| Some postsecondary  | 42.3                    | 47.3        | 10.4               | 0.0               | 51.6                                    | 7.0                | 7.2                 | 34.3                    |
| Bachelor's degree   | 53.8                    | 39.1        | 7.1                | 0.0               | 39.8                                    | 7.3                | 16.4                | 36.6                    |
| Advanced degree   | 38.7                    | 34.5        | 26.9               | 0.0               | 48.2                                    | 6.0                | 13.7                | 32.1                    |
| Student/employee role 1995–96   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not work while enrolled   | 42.0                    | 51.8        | 6.2                | 0.0               | 53.5                                    | 4.6                | 5.9                 | 36.0                    |
| Student working to meet<br>expenses                                     | 38.2                    | 43.9        | 17.9               | 0.0               | 56.2                                    | 6.0                | 13.5                | 24.3                    |
| Employee who is enrolled  | 53.3                    | 40.3        | 6.5                | 0.0               | 44.1                                    | 3.6                | 7.8                 | 44.5                    |

**Table 2.3c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**  
—Continued

|                                    | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|                                    | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|                                    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     | enrolled                |
| Dependent family income in 1994    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than \$25,000                 | 45.7                    | 46.3        | 7.9                | 0.0               | 47.6                                    | 7.0                | 14.6                | 30.8                    |
| \$25,000–44,999                    | 31.6                    | 52.2        | 16.2               | 0.0               | 61.9                                    | 6.3                | 10.0                | 21.9                    |
| \$45,000–69,999                    | 44.5                    | 37.0        | 18.6               | 0.0               | 55.4                                    | 2.3                | 10.8                | 31.5                    |
| \$70,000 or greater                | 42.6                    | 39.6        | 17.8               | 0.0               | 49.6                                    | 7.8                | 20.3                | 22.4                    |
| Independent student income in 1994 |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than \$6,000                  | 46.8                    | 46.4        | 6.7                | 0.0               | 45.2                                    | 8.5                | 4.1                 | 42.2                    |
| \$6,000–14,999                     | 44.2                    | 49.3        | 6.5                | 0.0               | 53.3                                    | 2.7                | 7.7                 | 36.4                    |
| \$15,000–24,999                    | 43.2                    | 54.7        | 2.1                | 0.0               | 54.6                                    | 2.2                | 4.2                 | 39.1                    |
| \$25,000 or greater                | 48.7                    | 44.1        | 7.3                | 0.0               | 49.1                                    | 5.6                | 4.2                 | 41.1                    |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.3d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |             |            | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                       |                           |                                  |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's | Bachelor's | Attained,<br>not<br>enrolled            | Attained,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>not<br>enrolled |
|   |                         |             | degree      | degree     |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Students who began in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Total   | 44.3                    | 47.5        | 8.2         | 0.0        | 51.2                                    | 5.3                   | 8.8                       | 34.8                             |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled                              |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| None  | 44.4                    | 39.3        | 16.3        | 0.0        | 48.8                                    | 6.6                   | 16.4                      | 28.2                             |
| One   | 39.4                    | 50.1        | 10.6        | 0.0        | 54.1                                    | 6.4                   | 9.2                       | 30.3                             |
| Two or three  | 44.5                    | 49.0        | 6.5         | 0.0        | 53.9                                    | 3.7                   | 7.9                       | 34.6                             |
| Four or more  | 46.9                    | 48.6        | 4.6         | 0.0        | 46.7                                    | 6.7                   | 4.1                       | 42.5                             |
| High school diploma or equivalency status                               |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| High school diploma   | 43.4                    | 46.6        | 10.0        | 0.0        | 52.6                                    | 4.8                   | 10.5                      | 32.2                             |
| GED/high school equivalent*   | 46.1                    | 48.3        | 5.6         | 0.0        | 46.8                                    | 7.6                   | 6.4                       | 39.2                             |
| None*   | 52.3                    | 47.7        | 0.0         | 0.0        | 42.8                                    | 5.8                   | 1.3                       | 50.1                             |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment  |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Did not delay   | 48.5                    | 34.7        | 16.9        | 0.0        | 44.1                                    | 6.8                   | 18.0                      | 31.1                             |
| Delayed*  | 41.9                    | 52.6        | 5.5         | 0.0        | 54.3                                    | 4.9                   | 5.8                       | 34.9                             |
| Attendance status when first enrolled                                   |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Full-time   | 44.0                    | 47.6        | 8.5         | 0.0        | 50.2                                    | 5.8                   | 9.2                       | 34.8                             |
| Part-time*  | 41.4                    | 53.0        | 5.6         | 0.0        | 56.6                                    | 2.0                   | 6.4                       | 34.9                             |
| Dependency status when first enrolled                                   |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Dependent   | 41.2                    | 46.3        | 12.5        | 0.0        | 52.8                                    | 6.3                   | 13.3                      | 27.6                             |
| Independent*  | 46.2                    | 48.2        | 5.6         | 0.0        | 49.6                                    | 5.2                   | 5.2                       | 40.0                             |
| Number of children when first enrolled                                  |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| None  | 41.0                    | 49.0        | 10.0        | 0.0        | 54.6                                    | 4.9                   | 10.7                      | 29.9                             |
| One or more*  | 48.2                    | 46.8        | 5.0         | 0.0        | 46.3                                    | 6.5                   | 4.0                       | 43.2                             |
| Single parent status when first enrolled                                |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Not a single parent   | 42.8                    | 48.9        | 8.3         | 0.0        | 53.6                                    | 4.7                   | 9.5                       | 32.3                             |
| Single parent*  | 46.7                    | 46.0        | 7.2         | 0.0        | 45.5                                    | 7.8                   | 4.2                       | 42.5                             |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96   |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Did not work  | 42.0                    | 51.8        | 6.2         | 0.0        | 53.5                                    | 4.6                   | 5.9                       | 36.0                             |
| Worked part time  | 41.2                    | 45.6        | 13.2        | 0.0        | 54.2                                    | 5.3                   | 12.0                      | 28.5                             |
| Worked full time*   | 48.8                    | 40.7        | 10.5        | 0.0        | 47.0                                    | 5.0                   | 10.2                      | 37.9                             |

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.4a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by degree program, first degree attained, and academic preparation**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in 4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total                                     | 95.7                    | 1.5         | 2.0                | 0.8               | 2.2                                     | 2.1                | 77.3                | 18.4                    |
| Type of first institution                 |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 4-year                                    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Public                                    | 96.1                    | 1.4         | 1.8                | 0.8               | 2.2                                     | 1.7                | 77.3                | 18.8                    |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 95.8                    | 1.5         | 2.0                | 0.7               | 1.8                                     | 2.5                | 78.5                | 17.2                    |
| Private, for-profit                       | 75.3                    | 7.6         | 13.9               | 3.2               | 19.5                                    | 5.6                | 41.3                | 33.6                    |
| Highest offering of first institution     |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Doctorate-granting                        | 96.5                    | 1.3         | 1.2                | 1.0               | 1.6                                     | 1.8                | 81.2                | 15.4                    |
| Non-doctorate-granting                    | 94.9                    | 1.7         | 2.9                | 0.6               | 2.9                                     | 2.4                | 72.9                | 21.9                    |
| Degree program at first institution       |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Certificate                               | 83.5                    | 7.9         | 8.6                | 0.0               | 15.5                                    | 1.6                | 53.1                | 29.8                    |
| Associate's degree                        | 80.0                    | 4.8         | 15.2               | 0.0               | 13.1                                    | 8.1                | 31.8                | 47.1                    |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 96.9                    | 1.1         | 1.1                | 0.9               | 1.3                                     | 1.7                | 80.5                | 16.5                    |
| Degree goal at first institution          |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None                                      | 94.3                    | 3.7         | 1.6                | 0.5               | 3.7                                     | 1.9                | 50.1                | 44.4                    |
| Certificate                               | 75.9                    | 14.4        | 9.7                | 0.0               | 20.7                                    | 4.1                | 39.0                | 36.2                    |
| Associate's degree                        | 78.7                    | 5.6         | 15.7               | 0.0               | 17.1                                    | 5.5                | 38.1                | 39.3                    |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 96.2                    | 1.2         | 1.7                | 1.0               | 1.7                                     | 2.1                | 81.1                | 15.1                    |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None                                      | 100.0                   | †           | †                  | †                 | †                                       | †                  | 80.8                | 19.2                    |
| Certificate                               | †                       | 90.3        | 4.8                | 5.0               | 58.3                                    | 41.7               | †                   | †                       |
| Associate's degree                        | †                       | †           | 96.1               | 3.9               | 46.0                                    | 54.0               | †                   | †                       |
| Met high math/science curriculum          |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not meet threshold                    | 96.6                    | 1.2         | 1.6                | 0.5               | 1.5                                     | 1.9                | 78.0                | 18.6                    |
| Met curriculum threshold                  | 97.3                    | 0.7         | 1.3                | 0.8               | 0.5                                     | 2.1                | 87.5                | 10.0                    |
| Number of Advanced Placement tests taken  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None                                      | 95.3                    | 1.8         | 2.2                | 0.7               | 2.8                                     | 1.9                | 74.1                | 21.1                    |
| One                                       | 95.7                    | 1.6         | 1.3                | 1.4               | 1.5                                     | 2.9                | 84.1                | 11.5                    |
| More than one                             | 96.6                    | 0.4         | 1.3                | 1.7               | 1.4                                     | 1.8                | 89.2                | 7.7                     |

**Table 2.4a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by degree program, first degree attained, and academic preparation  
—Continued**

|                                    | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|                                    | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|                                    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Grade-point average in high school |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| B or less                          | 95.9                    | 1.6         | 2.1                | 0.4               | 2.2                                     | 2.0                | 66.2                | 29.6                    |
| B+ to A-                           | 96.8                    | 1.6         | 1.1                | 0.6               | 1.3                                     | 2.0                | 80.4                | 16.3                    |
| Mostly As                          | 97.2                    | 0.4         | 1.5                | 0.9               | 0.8                                     | 1.8                | 91.1                | 6.3                     |
| Derived SAT combined score         |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Low quartile (400–700)             | 94.0                    | 3.4         | 2.0                | 0.7               | 3.8                                     | 2.3                | 66.2                | 27.7                    |
| Middle quartiles (710–1020)        | 96.9                    | 1.1         | 1.6                | 0.5               | 1.2                                     | 1.9                | 78.8                | 18.0                    |
| High quartile (1030–1600)          | 97.5                    | 0.4         | 1.1                | 1.1               | 1.0                                     | 1.4                | 88.2                | 9.4                     |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.4b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by attendance patterns through 1998**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in 4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total                                     | 95.7                    | 1.5         | 2.0                | 0.8               | 2.2                                     | 2.1                | 77.3                | 18.4                    |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than 12 months                       | 96.7                    | 2.5         | 0.8                | 0.0               | 3.1                                     | 0.2                | 5.4                 | 91.3                    |
| 12–24 months                              | 88.8                    | 4.1         | 4.9                | 2.2               | 9.5                                     | 1.7                | 39.9                | 49.0                    |
| 25 months or more                         | 97.1                    | 0.8         | 1.5                | 0.6               | 0.6                                     | 2.4                | 94.7                | 2.4                     |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Always full-time                          | 96.0                    | 1.0         | 2.2                | 0.8               | 2.0                                     | 2.0                | 79.8                | 16.2                    |
| Mixed                                     | 95.2                    | 2.8         | 1.2                | 0.8               | 2.6                                     | 2.2                | 77.0                | 18.3                    |
| Always part-time                          | 93.3                    | 5.1         | 1.6                | 0.0               | 4.7                                     | 2.0                | 24.9                | 68.4                    |
| Academic year of last enrollment          |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 1995–96                                   | 97.4                    | 1.6         | 1.0                | 0.0               | 2.6                                     | †                  | †                   | 97.4                    |
| 1996–97                                   | 84.3                    | 5.4         | 6.3                | 4.0               | 15.7                                    | †                  | †                   | 84.3                    |
| 1997–98                                   | 96.8                    | 1.1         | 1.6                | 0.5               | 0.8                                     | 2.4                | 92.0                | 4.8                     |
| Transfer status through 1998              |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not transfer                          | 96.0                    | 1.1         | 2.0                | 0.9               | 2.3                                     | 1.8                | 77.0                | 18.9                    |
| Transferred                               | 94.8                    | 2.9         | 2.0                | 0.3               | 2.1                                     | 3.2                | 78.3                | 16.4                    |
| First transfer direction                  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not transfer                          | 96.0                    | 1.1         | 2.0                | 0.9               | 2.3                                     | 1.8                | 77.0                | 18.9                    |
| Downward transfer                         | 91.0                    | 6.0         | 3.0                | 0.0               | 4.1                                     | 5.0                | 67.0                | 24.0                    |
| Upward or lateral transfer                | 97.7                    | 0.5         | 1.3                | 0.5               | 0.6                                     | 1.8                | 87.1                | 10.6                    |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 95.7                    | 1.4         | 2.0                | 0.9               | 2.3                                     | 2.1                | 77.8                | 17.9                    |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 96.2                    | 2.1         | 1.7                | 0.0               | 1.9                                     | 1.9                | 74.0                | 22.2                    |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.4c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                        |        | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                       |                           |                                  |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|------------------------|--------|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's Bachelor's |        | Attained,<br>not<br>enrolled            | Attained,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>not<br>enrolled |
|   |                         |             | degree                 | degree |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Students who began in 4-year institutions       |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Total   | 95.7                    | 1.5         | 2.0                    | 0.8    | 2.2                                     | 2.1                   | 77.3                      | 18.4                             |
| Gender  |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Male  | 95.6                    | 1.7         | 1.9                    | 0.9    | 2.2                                     | 2.2                   | 75.6                      | 19.9                             |
| Female  | 95.8                    | 1.3         | 2.1                    | 0.8    | 2.2                                     | 1.9                   | 78.6                      | 17.3                             |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| 18 years or younger                             | 97.0                    | 1.1         | 1.6                    | 0.3    | 1.0                                     | 2.0                   | 82.1                      | 15.0                             |
| 19 years  | 93.8                    | 1.4         | 2.7                    | 2.1    | 3.8                                     | 2.2                   | 73.1                      | 21.0                             |
| 20–23 years                                     | 85.9                    | 5.6         | 2.8                    | 5.8    | 13.0                                    | 1.3                   | 46.6                      | 39.0                             |
| 24–29 years                                     | 87.7                    | 3.2         | 9.0                    | 0.0    | 7.6                                     | 4.8                   | 50.4                      | 37.2                             |
| 30 or older                                     | 91.3                    | 4.3         | 3.2                    | 1.2    | 6.5                                     | 2.4                   | 40.3                      | 50.8                             |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 96.2                    | 1.1         | 2.0                    | 0.7    | 2.1                                     | 1.8                   | 77.6                      | 18.5                             |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 95.8                    | 3.4         | 0.9                    | 0.0    | 3.0                                     | 1.3                   | 71.0                      | 24.7                             |
| Hispanic  | 93.2                    | 2.4         | 2.2                    | 2.2    | 2.8                                     | 4.0                   | 75.3                      | 17.9                             |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 97.0                    | 0.3         | 1.6                    | 1.1    | 0.4                                     | 1.8                   | 86.5                      | 11.3                             |
| American Indian/<br>Alaskan Native              | 94.7                    | 0.0         | 5.3                    | 0.0    | 0.0                                     | 5.3                   | 80.8                      | 13.9                             |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Single, no children<br>(dependent)              | 96.2                    | 1.3         | 1.8                    | 0.8    | 1.8                                     | 2.0                   | 80.2                      | 16.0                             |
| Single, no children<br>(independent)            | 91.7                    | 1.9         | 4.7                    | 1.7    | 6.2                                     | 2.4                   | 67.1                      | 24.3                             |
| Single with children                            | 89.8                    | 7.3         | 2.9                    | 0.0    | 6.1                                     | 4.2                   | 44.6                      | 45.2                             |
| Married   | 92.7                    | 4.1         | 3.2                    | 0.0    | 6.0                                     | 1.5                   | 38.0                      | 54.5                             |
| Parental education                              |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| High school diploma or less                     | 94.6                    | 2.0         | 2.3                    | 1.1    | 3.3                                     | 2.2                   | 67.3                      | 27.2                             |
| Some postsecondary                              | 94.2                    | 1.9         | 3.2                    | 0.7    | 3.3                                     | 2.6                   | 70.6                      | 23.5                             |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 96.2                    | 1.3         | 1.8                    | 0.7    | 1.9                                     | 1.8                   | 82.2                      | 14.2                             |
| Advanced degree                                 | 97.6                    | 0.8         | 0.9                    | 0.8    | 0.9                                     | 1.5                   | 88.5                      | 9.1                              |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                         |             |                        |        |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 95.3                    | 1.5         | 2.4                    | 0.8    | 2.3                                     | 2.3                   | 82.0                      | 13.4                             |
| Student working to meet<br>expenses             | 95.3                    | 1.4         | 2.1                    | 1.2    | 2.7                                     | 2.0                   | 77.7                      | 17.6                             |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 93.1                    | 4.2         | 2.1                    | 0.6    | 3.8                                     | 3.2                   | 49.6                      | 43.4                             |

**Table 2.4c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics—Continued**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     | enrolled                |
| <b>Dependent family income in 1994</b>    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than \$25,000                        | 94.4                    | 2.0         | 2.4                | 1.3               | 2.8                                     | 2.8                | 73.3                | 21.1                    |
| \$25,000–44,999                           | 95.9                    | 1.6         | 1.7                | 0.8               | 2.4                                     | 1.8                | 75.7                | 20.2                    |
| \$45,000–69,999                           | 96.7                    | 0.8         | 1.7                | 0.8               | 1.9                                     | 1.5                | 82.9                | 13.7                    |
| \$70,000 or greater                       | 97.1                    | 1.0         | 1.3                | 0.6               | 0.7                                     | 2.1                | 85.8                | 11.5                    |
| <b>Independent student income in 1994</b> |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than \$6,000                         | 93.3                    | 4.3         | 2.4                | 0.0               | 5.8                                     | 1.0                | 48.0                | 45.2                    |
| \$6,000–14,999                            | 89.9                    | 2.7         | 6.3                | 1.1               | 8.0                                     | 3.0                | 52.4                | 36.6                    |
| \$15,000–24,999                           | 93.4                    | 2.0         | 4.6                | 0.0               | 2.3                                     | 4.3                | 55.4                | 38.0                    |
| \$25,000 or greater                       | 88.7                    | 6.8         | 2.8                | 1.6               | 8.5                                     | 2.8                | 38.0                | 50.8                    |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.4d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total                                      | 95.7                    | 1.5         | 2.0                | 0.8               | 2.2                                     | 2.1                | 77.3                | 18.4                    |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None                                       | 96.9                    | 0.9         | 1.6                | 0.6               | 1.1                                     | 1.9                | 83.9                | 13.1                    |
| One  | 92.8                    | 2.2         | 2.5                | 2.5               | 4.3                                     | 2.9                | 68.0                | 24.7                    |
| Two or three                               | 90.7                    | 4.9         | 3.5                | 0.9               | 7.5                                     | 1.9                | 53.5                | 37.1                    |
| Four or more                               | 92.3                    | 4.9         | 2.8                | 0.0               | 5.3                                     | 2.7                | 38.5                | 53.5                    |
| High school diploma or equivalency status  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| High school diploma                        | 95.9                    | 1.4         | 1.9                | 0.8               | 2.1                                     | 2.1                | 77.8                | 18.1                    |
| GED/high school equivalent*                | 88.3                    | 4.2         | 7.5                | 0.0               | 10.6                                    | 1.4                | 51.0                | 37.1                    |
| None*                                      | —                       | —           | —                  | —                 | —                                       | —                  | —                   | —                       |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment           |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not delay                              | 97.2                    | 1.0         | 1.6                | 0.2               | 1.0                                     | 1.8                | 82.3                | 14.9                    |
| Delayed*                                   | 89.4                    | 3.6         | 3.6                | 3.5               | 7.5                                     | 3.1                | 55.8                | 33.6                    |
| Attendance status when first enrolled      |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Full-time                                  | 96.0                    | 1.1         | 2.1                | 0.8               | 2.0                                     | 2.0                | 79.6                | 16.5                    |
| Part-time*                                 | 92.7                    | 5.2         | 1.6                | 0.6               | 4.4                                     | 2.8                | 56.9                | 35.9                    |
| Dependency status when first enrolled      |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Dependent                                  | 96.2                    | 1.3         | 1.8                | 0.8               | 1.8                                     | 2.0                | 80.2                | 16.0                    |
| Independent*                               | 91.2                    | 4.2         | 3.9                | 0.7               | 6.4                                     | 2.6                | 48.1                | 42.9                    |
| Number of children when first enrolled     |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None                                       | 95.9                    | 1.4         | 1.9                | 0.9               | 2.1                                     | 2.1                | 79.2                | 16.7                    |
| One or more*                               | 92.9                    | 5.3         | 1.8                | 0.0               | 4.7                                     | 2.5                | 41.2                | 51.7                    |
| Single parent status when first enrolled   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Not a single parent                        | 95.9                    | 1.4         | 1.9                | 0.8               | 2.1                                     | 2.0                | 78.4                | 17.5                    |
| Single parent*                             | 89.8                    | 7.3         | 2.9                | 0.0               | 6.1                                     | 4.2                | 44.6                | 45.2                    |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96              |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not work                               | 95.3                    | 1.5         | 2.4                | 0.8               | 2.3                                     | 2.3                | 82.0                | 13.4                    |
| Worked part time                           | 95.5                    | 1.3         | 2.1                | 1.1               | 2.5                                     | 2.1                | 78.4                | 17.1                    |
| Worked full time*                          | 94.0                    | 3.5         | 1.6                | 0.9               | 4.2                                     | 1.9                | 55.6                | 38.4                    |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.5a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in public 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by degree program, first degree attained, and academic preparation**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in public 4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total  | 96.1                    | 1.4         | 1.8                | 0.8               | 2.2                                     | 1.7                | 77.3                | 18.8                    |
| Highest offering of first institution            |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Doctorate-granting                               | 96.7                    | 1.3         | 1.1                | 0.9               | 1.7                                     | 1.4                | 80.3                | 16.6                    |
| Non-doctorate-granting                           | 94.9                    | 1.6         | 2.9                | 0.7               | 2.9                                     | 2.4                | 71.7                | 23.0                    |
| Degree program at first institution              |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Certificate                                      | 85.4                    | 5.7         | 8.9                | 0.0               | 14.0                                    | 1.2                | 49.6                | 35.3                    |
| Associate's degree                               | 79.3                    | 5.8         | 14.9               | 0.0               | 14.9                                    | 7.0                | 31.5                | 46.7                    |
| Bachelor's degree                                | 97.3                    | 1.0         | 0.8                | 0.9               | 1.2                                     | 1.5                | 80.5                | 16.9                    |
| Degree goal at first institution                 |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None   | 95.5                    | 2.9         | 1.5                | 0.0               | 2.1                                     | 2.0                | 56.3                | 39.6                    |
| Certificate                                      | 77.5                    | 9.3         | 13.3               | 0.0               | 18.9                                    | 3.9                | 35.6                | 41.6                    |
| Associate's degree                               | 76.2                    | 7.5         | 16.3               | 0.0               | 18.1                                    | 7.0                | 36.2                | 38.8                    |
| Bachelor's degree                                | 96.7                    | 1.0         | 1.3                | 1.0               | 1.7                                     | 1.5                | 80.8                | 16.0                    |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained          |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None   | 100.0                   | †           | †                  | †                 | †                                       | †                  | 80.4                | 19.6                    |
| Certificate                                      | †                       | 91.6        | 7.0                | 1.4               | 56.4                                    | 43.6               | †                   | †                       |
| Associate's degree                               | †                       | †           | 93.2               | 6.9               | 53.0                                    | 47.0               | †                   | †                       |
| Met high math/science curriculum                 |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not meet threshold                           | 96.7                    | 1.4         | 1.5                | 0.4               | 1.7                                     | 1.7                | 77.3                | 19.3                    |
| Met curriculum threshold                         | 97.2                    | 0.5         | 1.2                | 1.1               | 0.6                                     | 1.9                | 87.8                | 9.7                     |
| Number of Advanced Placement tests taken         |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None   | 96.1                    | 1.7         | 1.5                | 0.6               | 2.5                                     | 1.3                | 75.2                | 21.0                    |
| One  | 97.3                    | 0.5         | 1.1                | 1.1               | 1.5                                     | 1.2                | 84.6                | 12.7                    |
| More than one                                    | 95.3                    | 0.5         | 1.8                | 2.5               | 1.9                                     | 2.3                | 86.2                | 9.7                     |
| Grade-point average in high school               |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| B or less  | 96.3                    | 1.8         | 1.6                | 0.2               | 2.1                                     | 1.6                | 66.7                | 29.6                    |
| B+ to A-   | 97.3                    | 1.3         | 0.8                | 0.6               | 0.8                                     | 1.9                | 80.2                | 17.1                    |
| Mostly As  | 97.0                    | 0.5         | 1.6                | 0.9               | 1.1                                     | 1.7                | 90.9                | 6.4                     |
| Derived SAT combined score                       |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Low quartile (400–700)                           | 94.4                    | 3.3         | 1.9                | 0.4               | 2.8                                     | 2.8                | 65.7                | 28.7                    |
| Middle quartiles (710–1020)                      | 97.4                    | 1.1         | 1.2                | 0.4               | 1.3                                     | 1.4                | 79.5                | 17.9                    |
| High quartile (1030–1600)                        | 97.0                    | 0.4         | 1.4                | 1.3               | 1.3                                     | 1.5                | 85.8                | 11.4                    |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.5b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in public 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by attendance patterns through 1998**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in public 4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total  | 96.1                    | 1.4         | 1.8                | 0.8               | 2.2                                     | 1.7                | 77.3                | 18.8                    |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998           |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than 12 months                              | 97.8                    | 1.3         | 0.9                | 0.0               | 1.9                                     | 0.4                | 7.0                 | 90.8                    |
| 12–24 months                                     | 88.9                    | 4.1         | 4.9                | 2.0               | 9.3                                     | 1.8                | 40.6                | 48.4                    |
| 25 months or more                                | 97.5                    | 0.8         | 1.1                | 0.6               | 0.6                                     | 1.9                | 95.2                | 2.3                     |
| Intensity pattern through 1998                   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Always full-time                                 | 96.6                    | 0.8         | 2.0                | 0.7               | 1.9                                     | 1.5                | 79.7                | 16.9                    |
| Mixed  | 94.5                    | 3.4         | 1.1                | 1.0               | 3.0                                     | 2.5                | 76.9                | 17.6                    |
| Always part-time                                 | 96.7                    | 2.7         | 0.6                | 0.0               | 1.9                                     | 1.4                | 29.8                | 67.0                    |
| Academic year of last enrollment                 |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 1995–96  | 98.2                    | 0.6         | 1.2                | 0.0               | 1.8                                     | †                  | †                   | 98.2                    |
| 1996–97  | 84.3                    | 4.7         | 7.3                | 3.7               | 15.7                                    | †                  | †                   | 84.3                    |
| 1997–98  | 97.2                    | 1.1         | 1.2                | 0.5               | 0.7                                     | 2.1                | 92.3                | 4.9                     |
| Transfer status through 1998                     |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not transfer                                 | 96.6                    | 0.9         | 1.6                | 0.9               | 2.2                                     | 1.2                | 76.7                | 19.8                    |
| Transferred                                      | 94.4                    | 3.3         | 2.2                | 0.2               | 1.9                                     | 3.7                | 79.4                | 15.0                    |
| First transfer direction                         |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not transfer                                 | 96.6                    | 0.9         | 1.6                | 0.9               | 2.2                                     | 1.2                | 76.7                | 19.8                    |
| Downward transfer                                | 90.7                    | 6.6         | 2.7                | 0.0               | 3.7                                     | 5.6                | 68.5                | 22.2                    |
| Upward or lateral transfer                       | 97.6                    | 0.4         | 1.8                | 0.3               | 0.5                                     | 2.0                | 88.9                | 8.7                     |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998               |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Continuously enrolled                            | 96.2                    | 1.3         | 1.7                | 0.9               | 2.2                                     | 1.6                | 78.1                | 18.1                    |
| Not continuously enrolled                        | 95.5                    | 2.3         | 2.2                | 0.1               | 2.1                                     | 2.4                | 72.0                | 23.4                    |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.5c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in public 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in public 4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total  | 96.1                    | 1.4         | 1.8                | 0.8               | 2.2                                     | 1.7                | 77.3                | 18.8                    |
| Gender   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Male   | 95.9                    | 1.4         | 1.6                | 1.2               | 2.0                                     | 2.1                | 76.0                | 19.8                    |
| Female   | 96.2                    | 1.4         | 1.9                | 0.5               | 2.3                                     | 1.4                | 78.2                | 18.2                    |
| Age when first enrolled                          |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 18 years or younger                              | 97.2                    | 1.1         | 1.4                | 0.3               | 1.0                                     | 1.8                | 81.5                | 15.7                    |
| 19 years   | 93.0                    | 1.5         | 3.0                | 2.6               | 4.4                                     | 2.1                | 73.7                | 19.9                    |
| 20–23 years                                      | 86.5                    | 4.7         | 3.2                | 5.6               | 12.6                                    | 1.1                | 46.4                | 40.0                    |
| 24–29 years                                      | 99.3                    | 0.0         | 0.7                | 0.0               | 0.7                                     | 0.0                | 58.3                | 41.0                    |
| 30 or older                                      | 93.0                    | 2.7         | 4.3                | 0.0               | 5.3                                     | 1.9                | 46.0                | 46.8                    |
| Race/ethnicity                                   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| White, non-Hispanic                              | 96.7                    | 1.1         | 1.7                | 0.5               | 2.0                                     | 1.3                | 77.0                | 19.6                    |
| Black, non-Hispanic                              | 96.9                    | 2.3         | 0.9                | 0.0               | 2.3                                     | 0.8                | 71.4                | 25.5                    |
| Hispanic   | 93.1                    | 2.2         | 1.8                | 2.9               | 2.3                                     | 4.8                | 79.1                | 13.8                    |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                           | 97.3                    | 0.3         | 0.8                | 1.7               | 0.6                                     | 0.8                | 87.5                | 11.1                    |
| American Indian/<br>Alaskan Native               | —                       | —           | —                  | —                 | —                                       | —                  | —                   | —                       |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Single, no children<br>(dependent)               | 96.2                    | 1.3         | 1.6                | 0.9               | 1.9                                     | 1.8                | 79.6                | 16.7                    |
| Single, no children<br>(independent)             | 98.6                    | 0.5         | 1.0                | 0.0               | 1.0                                     | 0.5                | 75.3                | 23.2                    |
| Single with children                             | 93.0                    | 6.4         | 0.6                | 0.0               | 6.5                                     | 0.7                | 53.3                | 39.6                    |
| Married  | 93.2                    | 2.6         | 4.2                | 0.0               | 4.5                                     | 2.4                | 40.6                | 52.6                    |
| Parental education                               |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| High school diploma or less                      | 94.9                    | 2.1         | 2.0                | 1.0               | 2.9                                     | 2.3                | 69.0                | 25.8                    |
| Some postsecondary                               | 94.1                    | 2.0         | 3.0                | 1.0               | 3.7                                     | 2.2                | 68.9                | 25.2                    |
| Bachelor's degree                                | 96.6                    | 1.0         | 1.6                | 0.8               | 2.2                                     | 0.9                | 81.8                | 15.1                    |
| Advanced degree                                  | 98.5                    | 0.5         | 0.6                | 0.5               | 0.3                                     | 1.1                | 90.5                | 8.1                     |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not work while enrolled                      | 95.8                    | 1.1         | 2.2                | 0.9               | 2.3                                     | 1.6                | 83.2                | 12.9                    |
| Student working to meet<br>expenses              | 95.4                    | 1.6         | 1.8                | 1.2               | 2.7                                     | 1.9                | 76.3                | 19.1                    |
| Employee who is enrolled                         | 94.9                    | 3.3         | 1.8                | 0.0               | 3.2                                     | 2.3                | 50.5                | 44.0                    |

**Table 2.5c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in public 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics—Continued**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     | enrolled                |
| <b>Dependent family income in 1994</b>    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than \$25,000                        | 94.0                    | 2.1         | 2.3                | 1.7               | 3.1                                     | 3.0                | 73.4                | 20.5                    |
| \$25,000–44,999                           | 96.1                    | 1.2         | 1.7                | 1.0               | 2.4                                     | 1.5                | 75.2                | 20.8                    |
| \$45,000–69,999                           | 97.0                    | 1.0         | 1.4                | 0.6               | 1.8                                     | 1.2                | 82.0                | 15.0                    |
| \$70,000 or greater                       | 97.4                    | 0.9         | 1.2                | 0.5               | 0.7                                     | 1.6                | 85.2                | 12.5                    |
| <b>Independent student income in 1994</b> |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than \$6,000                         | 93.0                    | 6.4         | 0.7                | 0.0               | 5.7                                     | 1.5                | 46.8                | 46.0                    |
| \$6,000–14,999                            | 97.4                    | 1.1         | 1.5                | 0.0               | 2.8                                     | 0.0                | 63.5                | 33.8                    |
| \$15,000–24,999                           | 94.9                    | 1.5         | 3.6                | 0.0               | 2.7                                     | 2.5                | 59.6                | 35.3                    |
| \$25,000 or greater                       | 94.1                    | 2.5         | 3.4                | 0.0               | 4.3                                     | 1.6                | 42.6                | 51.5                    |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.5d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in public 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |             |            | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                       |                           |                                  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's | Bachelor's | Attained,<br>not<br>enrolled            | Attained,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>not<br>enrolled |
|  |                         |             | degree      | degree     |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Students who began in public 4-year institutions |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Total  | 96.1                    | 1.4         | 1.8         | 0.8        | 2.2                                     | 1.7                   | 77.3                      | 18.8                             |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled       |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| None   | 97.2                    | 0.8         | 1.5         | 0.5        | 1.1                                     | 1.7                   | 83.7                      | 13.6                             |
| One  | 92.8                    | 2.1         | 2.2         | 2.9        | 4.7                                     | 2.6                   | 67.8                      | 24.9                             |
| Two or three                                     | 93.1                    | 5.0         | 1.9         | 0.0        | 5.7                                     | 1.4                   | 57.7                      | 35.2                             |
| Four or more                                     | 94.8                    | 2.9         | 2.3         | 0.0        | 4.1                                     | 1.3                   | 41.9                      | 52.7                             |
| High school diploma or equivalency status        |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| High school diploma                              | 96.2                    | 1.3         | 1.6         | 0.8        | 2.0                                     | 1.8                   | 77.7                      | 18.6                             |
| GED/high school equivalent*                      | 86.9                    | 3.7         | 9.4         | 0.0        | 12.9                                    | 1.0                   | 48.2                      | 37.9                             |
| None*  | —                       | —           | —           | —          | —                                       | —                     | —                         | —                                |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment                 |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Did not delay                                    | 97.2                    | 1.2         | 1.4         | 0.2        | 1.1                                     | 1.8                   | 81.8                      | 15.5                             |
| Delayed*   | 91.4                    | 2.0         | 3.1         | 3.5        | 6.8                                     | 1.7                   | 58.4                      | 33.2                             |
| Attendance status when first enrolled            |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Full-time  | 96.5                    | 0.9         | 1.8         | 0.8        | 1.9                                     | 1.5                   | 79.3                      | 17.3                             |
| Part-time*                                       | 92.5                    | 5.2         | 1.5         | 0.8        | 4.0                                     | 3.6                   | 61.1                      | 31.4                             |
| Dependency status when first enrolled            |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Dependent  | 96.2                    | 1.3         | 1.6         | 0.9        | 1.9                                     | 1.8                   | 79.6                      | 16.7                             |
| Independent*                                     | 94.8                    | 2.9         | 2.3         | 0.0        | 4.0                                     | 1.4                   | 52.7                      | 42.0                             |
| Number of children when first enrolled           |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| None   | 96.2                    | 1.3         | 1.7         | 0.9        | 1.9                                     | 1.8                   | 79.0                      | 17.3                             |
| One or more*                                     | 94.9                    | 4.3         | 0.7         | 0.0        | 4.3                                     | 0.8                   | 48.3                      | 46.7                             |
| Single parent status when first enrolled         |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Not a single parent                              | 96.2                    | 1.3         | 1.7         | 0.8        | 2.0                                     | 1.8                   | 78.2                      | 18.0                             |
| Single parent*                                   | 93.0                    | 6.4         | 0.6         | 0.0        | 6.5                                     | 0.7                   | 53.3                      | 39.6                             |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96                    |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Did not work                                     | 95.8                    | 1.1         | 2.2         | 0.9        | 2.3                                     | 1.6                   | 83.2                      | 12.9                             |
| Worked part time                                 | 95.5                    | 1.5         | 1.8         | 1.2        | 2.7                                     | 1.9                   | 76.8                      | 18.7                             |
| Worked full time*                                | 96.2                    | 2.4         | 1.4         | 0.0        | 2.1                                     | 1.8                   | 57.6                      | 38.5                             |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.6a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by degree program, first degree attained, and academic preparation**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total   | 95.8                    | 1.5         | 2.0                | 0.7               | 1.8                                     | 2.5                | 78.5                | 17.2                    |
| Highest offering of first institution                             |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Doctorate-granting  | 95.7                    | 1.5         | 1.5                | 1.2               | 1.3                                     | 3.1                | 84.0                | 11.6                    |
| Non-doctorate-granting  | 95.8                    | 1.5         | 2.3                | 0.5               | 2.1                                     | 2.2                | 75.5                | 20.2                    |
| Degree program at first institution                               |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Certificate   | 80.6                    | 12.0        | 7.4                | 0.0               | 17.7                                    | 2.4                | 59.7                | 20.3                    |
| Associate's degree  | 81.8                    | 2.5         | 15.7               | 0.0               | 8.0                                     | 11.4               | 30.3                | 50.3                    |
| Bachelor's degree   | 96.8                    | 1.2         | 1.2                | 0.8               | 1.2                                     | 2.1                | 81.4                | 15.4                    |
| Degree goal at first institution                                  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None  | 93.0                    | 4.3         | 1.4                | 1.3               | 5.4                                     | 1.8                | 41.0                | 51.8                    |
| Certificate   | —                       | —           | —                  | —                 | —                                       | —                  | —                   | —                       |
| Associate's degree  | 83.3                    | 1.9         | 14.9               | 0.0               | 14.0                                    | 4.6                | 40.6                | 40.8                    |
| Bachelor's degree   | 95.9                    | 1.3         | 1.9                | 0.9               | 1.3                                     | 2.9                | 82.7                | 13.1                    |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained                           |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None  | 100.0                   | †           | †                  | †                 | †                                       | †                  | 82.1                | 18.0                    |
| Certificate   | †                       | 86.9        | 2.0                | 11.1              | 56.6                                    | 43.4               | †                   | †                       |
| Associate's degree  | †                       | †           | 100.0              | 0.0               | 31.1                                    | 68.9               | †                   | †                       |
| Met high math/science curriculum                                  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not meet threshold  | 96.6                    | 0.8         | 1.8                | 0.7               | 1.2                                     | 2.3                | 79.7                | 16.8                    |
| Met curriculum threshold  | 97.4                    | 1.0         | 1.3                | 0.4               | 0.4                                     | 2.4                | 86.9                | 10.4                    |
| Number of Advanced Placement tests taken                          |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| None  | 94.3                    | 1.6         | 3.1                | 1.0               | 2.6                                     | 3.1                | 73.3                | 20.9                    |
| One   | 94.7                    | 3.6         | 0.7                | 1.0               | 0.7                                     | 4.7                | 85.7                | 8.8                     |
| More than one   | 98.2                    | 0.4         | 0.7                | 0.8               | 0.8                                     | 1.1                | 92.9                | 5.2                     |
| Grade-point average in high school                                |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| B or less   | 95.0                    | 1.2         | 3.0                | 0.8               | 2.5                                     | 2.8                | 65.3                | 29.4                    |
| B+ to A-  | 96.1                    | 2.1         | 1.4                | 0.4               | 1.9                                     | 2.3                | 80.9                | 15.0                    |
| Mostly As   | 97.6                    | 0.3         | 1.3                | 0.9               | 0.4                                     | 2.1                | 91.4                | 6.2                     |
| Derived SAT combined score  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Low quartile (400–700)  | 92.6                    | 3.6         | 2.4                | 1.4               | 6.2                                     | 1.4                | 67.0                | 25.5                    |
| Middle quartiles (710–1020)                                       | 96.3                    | 0.9         | 2.2                | 0.6               | 0.9                                     | 3.1                | 77.8                | 18.3                    |
| High quartile (1030–1600)   | 98.1                    | 0.4         | 0.7                | 0.8               | 0.7                                     | 1.3                | 91.3                | 6.8                     |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.6b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by attendance patterns through 1998**

|   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
|---|---|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
|   | Highest degree attained                 |             |                       |                      | Attained,<br>not<br>enrolled | Attained,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>not<br>enrolled |
|   | None                                    | Certificate | Associate's<br>degree | Bachelor's<br>degree |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Students who began in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Total   | 95.8                                    | 1.5         | 2.0                   | 0.7                  | 1.8                          | 2.5                   | 78.5                      | 17.2                             |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998                            |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Less than 12 months   | 95.2                                    | 4.3         | 0.5                   | 0.0                  | 4.8                          | 0.0                   | 2.1                       | 93.1                             |
| 12–24 months  | 90.0                                    | 3.3         | 4.8                   | 2.0                  | 8.5                          | 1.5                   | 39.7                      | 50.4                             |
| 25 months or more   | 96.8                                    | 0.9         | 1.7                   | 0.6                  | 0.2                          | 3.0                   | 94.3                      | 2.5                              |
| Intensity pattern through 1998                                    |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Always full-time  | 95.7                                    | 1.2         | 2.2                   | 0.9                  | 1.6                          | 2.7                   | 81.2                      | 14.5                             |
| Mixed   | 96.9                                    | 1.5         | 1.3                   | 0.2                  | 1.5                          | 1.6                   | 77.0                      | 19.9                             |
| Always part-time  | 86.7                                    | 9.2         | 4.1                   | 0.0                  | 9.7                          | 3.6                   | 16.8                      | 70.0                             |
| Academic year of last enrollment                                  |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| 1995–96   | 95.7                                    | 3.6         | 0.7                   | 0.0                  | 4.3                          | †                     | †                         | 95.7                             |
| 1996–97   | 86.6                                    | 6.1         | 3.5                   | 3.8                  | 13.4                         | †                     | †                         | 86.6                             |
| 1997–98   | 96.5                                    | 0.9         | 2.1                   | 0.6                  | 0.6                          | 2.9                   | 91.9                      | 4.6                              |
| Transfer status through 1998                                      |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Did not transfer  | 95.6                                    | 1.3         | 2.3                   | 0.8                  | 1.8                          | 2.7                   | 78.9                      | 16.7                             |
| Transferred   | 96.1                                    | 2.0         | 1.4                   | 0.5                  | 2.0                          | 1.9                   | 77.1                      | 19.0                             |
| First transfer direction  |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Did not transfer  | 95.6                                    | 1.3         | 2.3                   | 0.8                  | 1.8                          | 2.7                   | 78.9                      | 16.7                             |
| Downward transfer   | 93.2                                    | 4.2         | 2.6                   | 0.0                  | 4.0                          | 2.8                   | 65.0                      | 28.2                             |
| Upward or lateral transfer  | 97.8                                    | 0.7         | 0.6                   | 0.9                  | 0.8                          | 1.4                   | 84.4                      | 13.4                             |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998                                |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Continuously enrolled   | 95.4                                    | 1.5         | 2.2                   | 0.9                  | 1.9                          | 2.7                   | 78.4                      | 17.0                             |
| Not continuously enrolled   | 98.2                                    | 1.3         | 0.6                   | 0.0                  | 1.1                          | 0.8                   | 79.0                      | 19.1                             |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.6c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Students who began in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Total   | 95.8                    | 1.5         | 2.0                | 0.7               | 1.8                                     | 2.5                | 78.5                | 17.2                    |
| Gender  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Male  | 95.7                    | 2.1         | 1.9                | 0.3               | 2.0                                     | 2.3                | 76.4                | 19.2                    |
| Female  | 95.8                    | 1.0         | 2.1                | 1.1               | 1.7                                     | 2.6                | 80.1                | 15.6                    |
| Age when first enrolled   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| 18 years or younger   | 97.1                    | 0.9         | 1.7                | 0.3               | 0.7                                     | 2.3                | 83.5                | 13.5                    |
| 19 years  | 95.4                    | 1.3         | 2.1                | 1.2               | 2.5                                     | 2.4                | 72.8                | 22.4                    |
| 20–23 years   | 86.6                    | 5.1         | 1.5                | 6.8               | 12.0                                    | 1.6                | 48.5                | 37.9                    |
| 24–29 years   | 75.5                    | 8.0         | 16.6               | 0.0               | 13.3                                    | 12.0               | 44.3                | 30.4                    |
| 30 or older   | 90.1                    | 8.0         | 1.9                | 0.0               | 6.1                                     | 3.8                | 31.3                | 58.8                    |
| Race/ethnicity  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| White, non-Hispanic   | 95.7                    | 1.0         | 2.3                | 1.0               | 1.9                                     | 2.6                | 79.6                | 15.9                    |
| Black, non-Hispanic   | 94.1                    | 4.9         | 1.0                | 0.0               | 4.0                                     | 2.4                | 71.3                | 22.4                    |
| Hispanic  | 95.9                    | 2.6         | 1.1                | 0.5               | 1.0                                     | 2.7                | 71.8                | 24.5                    |
| Asian/Pacific Islander  | 98.3                    | 0.3         | 1.4                | 0.0               | 0.0                                     | 1.8                | 86.0                | 12.2                    |
| American Indian/<br>Alaskan Native                                | —                       | —           | —                  | —                 | —                                       | —                  | —                   | —                       |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled                   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Single, no children<br>(dependent)                                | 96.3                    | 1.2         | 1.7                | 0.7               | 1.4                                     | 2.3                | 81.9                | 14.4                    |
| Single, no children<br>(independent)                              | 85.4                    | 4.2         | 8.6                | 1.9               | 9.7                                     | 5.4                | 56.3                | 28.6                    |
| Single with children  | 84.4                    | 7.7         | 8.0                | 0.0               | 3.8                                     | 11.8               | 37.2                | 47.2                    |
| Married   | 94.3                    | 5.2         | 0.5                | 0.0               | 6.1                                     | 0.0                | 34.2                | 59.8                    |
| Parental education  |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| High school diploma or less                                       | 94.9                    | 1.6         | 2.5                | 1.0               | 3.0                                     | 2.2                | 65.6                | 29.1                    |
| Some postsecondary  | 95.1                    | 1.9         | 2.9                | 0.1               | 1.8                                     | 3.3                | 75.3                | 19.7                    |
| Bachelor's degree   | 96.1                    | 1.5         | 1.8                | 0.7               | 0.9                                     | 3.1                | 84.1                | 12.0                    |
| Advanced degree   | 96.8                    | 1.0         | 1.2                | 1.1               | 1.3                                     | 2.0                | 86.3                | 10.4                    |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                                     |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Did not work while enrolled                                       | 94.7                    | 2.3         | 2.5                | 0.5               | 1.8                                     | 3.7                | 80.0                | 14.6                    |
| Student working to meet<br>expenses                               | 95.8                    | 0.8         | 2.1                | 1.3               | 2.2                                     | 2.2                | 81.5                | 14.2                    |
| Employee who is enrolled  | 91.2                    | 6.4         | 2.4                | 0.0               | 3.5                                     | 4.7                | 49.2                | 42.5                    |

**Table 2.6c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics—Continued**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |                    |                   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                    |                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|   | None                    | Certificate | Associate's degree | Bachelor's degree | Attained, not enrolled                  | Attained, enrolled | No degree, enrolled | No degree, not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     | enrolled                |
| <b>Dependent family income in 1994</b>    |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than \$25,000                        | 96.5                    | 1.4         | 1.7                | 0.5               | 1.3                                     | 2.1                | 75.0                | 21.7                    |
| \$25,000–44,999                           | 95.7                    | 2.2         | 1.6                | 0.5               | 2.3                                     | 2.1                | 76.9                | 18.6                    |
| \$45,000–69,999                           | 96.0                    | 0.4         | 2.4                | 1.3               | 2.1                                     | 2.0                | 84.7                | 11.2                    |
| \$70,000 or greater                       | 96.9                    | 1.0         | 1.4                | 0.7               | 0.5                                     | 2.8                | 86.9                | 9.8                     |
| <b>Independent student income in 1994</b> |                         |             |                    |                   |   |                    |                     |                         |
| Less than \$6,000                         | 97.7                    | 1.1         | 1.2                | 0.0               | 1.7                                     | 0.6                | 52.5                | 45.2                    |
| \$6,000–14,999                            | 78.6                    | 2.6         | 15.6               | 3.2               | 15.6                                    | 9.3                | 34.6                | 40.5                    |
| \$15,000–24,999                           | —                       | —           | —                  | —                 | —                                       | —                  | —                   | —                       |
| \$25,000 or greater                       | 81.0                    | 19.0        | 0.0                | 0.0               | 12.7                                    | 6.3                | 32.2                | 48.8                    |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 2.6d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|   | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
|---|---|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
|   | Highest degree attained                 |             |                       |                      | Attained,<br>not<br>enrolled | Attained,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>not<br>enrolled |
|   | None                                    | Certificate | Associate's<br>degree | Bachelor's<br>degree |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Students who began in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Total   | 95.8                                    | 1.5         | 2.0                   | 0.7                  | 1.8                          | 2.5                   | 78.5                      | 17.2                             |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled                        |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| None  | 96.8                                    | 1.0         | 1.6                   | 0.6                  | 1.1                          | 2.2                   | 84.7                      | 12.0                             |
| One   | 93.4                                    | 2.2         | 2.8                   | 1.6                  | 3.1                          | 3.6                   | 69.1                      | 24.2                             |
| Two or three  | 91.4                                    | 2.9         | 4.6                   | 1.0                  | 5.8                          | 2.8                   | 48.5                      | 42.9                             |
| Four or more  | 87.6                                    | 8.3         | 4.1                   | 0.0                  | 7.3                          | 5.8                   | 34.6                      | 52.3                             |
| High school diploma or equivalency status                         |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| High school diploma   | 95.8                                    | 1.5         | 2.0                   | 0.8                  | 1.8                          | 2.5                   | 79.1                      | 16.6                             |
| GED/high school equivalent*                                       | 94.3                                    | 3.6         | 2.1                   | 0.0                  | 3.6                          | 2.1                   | 57.3                      | 37.1                             |
| None*   | —                                       | —           | —                     | —                    | —                            | —                     | —                         | —                                |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment                                  |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Did not delay   | 97.6                                    | 0.5         | 1.6                   | 0.2                  | 0.7                          | 1.8                   | 83.9                      | 13.6                             |
| Delayed*  | 86.6                                    | 6.2         | 4.0                   | 3.2                  | 7.4                          | 6.1                   | 52.7                      | 33.8                             |
| Attendance status when first enrolled                             |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Full-time   | 95.9                                    | 1.2         | 2.1                   | 0.8                  | 1.5                          | 2.6                   | 81.1                      | 14.7                             |
| Part-time*  | 93.3                                    | 5.0         | 1.8                   | 0.0                  | 5.4                          | 1.4                   | 47.4                      | 45.8                             |
| Dependency status when first enrolled                             |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Dependent   | 96.3                                    | 1.2         | 1.7                   | 0.7                  | 1.4                          | 2.3                   | 81.9                      | 14.4                             |
| Independent*  | 88.6                                    | 5.3         | 5.3                   | 0.7                  | 7.0                          | 4.8                   | 43.7                      | 44.5                             |
| Number of children when first enrolled                            |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| None  | 96.0                                    | 1.3         | 2.0                   | 0.8                  | 1.8                          | 2.4                   | 80.5                      | 15.4                             |
| One or more*  | 88.9                                    | 6.7         | 4.4                   | 0.0                  | 4.6                          | 6.6                   | 30.5                      | 58.4                             |
| Single parent status when first enrolled                          |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Not a single parent   | 95.9                                    | 1.4         | 1.9                   | 0.8                  | 1.8                          | 2.4                   | 79.6                      | 16.2                             |
| Single parent*  | 84.4                                    | 7.7         | 8.0                   | 0.0                  | 3.8                          | 11.8                  | 37.2                      | 47.2                             |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96                                     |   |             |                       |                      |                              |                       |                           |                                  |
| Did not work  | 94.7                                    | 2.3         | 2.5                   | 0.5                  | 1.8                          | 3.7                   | 80.0                      | 14.6                             |
| Worked part time  | 95.8                                    | 0.9         | 2.3                   | 1.0                  | 1.9                          | 2.4                   | 81.8                      | 13.9                             |
| Worked full time*   | 92.8                                    | 4.5         | 1.1                   | 1.6                  | 5.4                          | 1.9                   | 54.9                      | 37.8                             |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.0a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by first institution type and first degree program**

|   | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|   | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
| Total                                   | 0.3                               | 4.5                | 8.9         | 41.7                               | 25.7                 | 18.9                   |
| Type of first institution               |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| 4-year                                  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Public                                  | 0.8                               | 1.3                | 0.7         | 64.5                               | 13.2                 | 19.6                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                 | 0.6                               | 1.7                | 1.1         | 62.9                               | 12.0                 | 21.7                   |
| Private, for-profit                     | 3.2                               | 10.7               | 4.8         | 28.5                               | 27.4                 | 25.4                   |
| 2-year                                  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Public                                  | †                                 | 6.0                | 6.5         | 31.6                               | 35.4                 | 20.6                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                 | †                                 | 30.1               | 11.3        | 12.7                               | 24.8                 | 21.1                   |
| Private, for-profit                     | †                                 | 23.3               | 22.6        | 12.7                               | 33.0                 | 8.5                    |
| Less-than-2-year                        |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Public                                  | †                                 | †                  | 48.6        | 5.3                                | 36.7                 | 9.5                    |
| Private, for-profit                     | †                                 | †                  | 55.4        | 7.2                                | 30.5                 | 6.9                    |
| Level of first institution              |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| 4-year                                  | 0.7                               | 1.5                | 0.9         | 63.5                               | 12.9                 | 20.4                   |
| 2-year                                  | 0.0                               | 7.6                | 7.7         | 29.9                               | 35.1                 | 19.7                   |
| Less-than-2-year                        | 0.0                               | 0.0                | 53.5        | 6.9                                | 32.1                 | 7.5                    |
| Control of first institution            |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Public                                  | 0.3                               | 4.2                | 5.4         | 42.6                               | 27.6                 | 20.0                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                 | 0.6                               | 3.3                | 1.7         | 59.7                               | 13.0                 | 21.6                   |
| Private, for-profit                     | 0.1                               | 8.1                | 42.5        | 9.9                                | 31.2                 | 8.2                    |
| Degree program at first institution     |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Certificate                             | 0.0                               | 1.8                | 39.3        | 15.1                               | 35.4                 | 8.5                    |
| Associate's degree                      | 0.0                               | 9.0                | 2.8         | 31.9                               | 34.2                 | 22.0                   |
| Bachelor's degree                       | 0.8                               | 0.6                | 0.5         | 66.1                               | 11.3                 | 20.7                   |
| Degree goal at first institution        |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| None                                    | 0.0                               | 1.2                | 6.3         | 13.9                               | 45.8                 | 32.8                   |
| Certificate                             | 0.0                               | 1.6                | 47.9        | 10.8                               | 33.5                 | 6.3                    |
| Associate's degree                      | 0.0                               | 13.6               | 4.7         | 36.3                               | 33.2                 | 12.3                   |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year | 0.7                               | 2.2                | 0.8         | 59.1                               | 14.5                 | 22.7                   |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| None                                    | †                                 | †                  | †           | 48.7                               | 30.6                 | 20.7                   |
| Certificate                             | 0.3                               | 2.1                | 82.8        | 5.4                                | †                    | 9.4                    |
| Associate's degree                      | 0.7                               | 86.3               | †           | 3.5                                | †                    | 9.6                    |

\*Postsecondary education.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.0b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by attendance patterns**

|  | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|  | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
| Total                                  | 0.3                               | 4.5                | 8.9         | 41.7                               | 25.7                 | 18.9                   |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998 |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Less than 12 months                    | 0.0                               | 0.7                | 17.0        | 7.9                                | 68.4                 | 6.0                    |
| 12–24 months                           | 0.5                               | 5.8                | 13.2        | 27.7                               | 26.7                 | 26.1                   |
| 25 months or more                      | 0.4                               | 5.9                | 2.4         | 66.9                               | 2.1                  | 22.5                   |
| Intensity pattern through 1998         |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Always full-time                       | 0.4                               | 6.3                | 9.8         | 45.4                               | 20.7                 | 17.4                   |
| Mixed                                  | 0.2                               | 3.2                | 6.9         | 44.3                               | 16.8                 | 28.8                   |
| Always part-time                       | 0.0                               | 0.2                | 9.6         | 22.8                               | 62.5                 | 5.0                    |
| Academic year of last enrollment       |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| 1995–96                                | 0.0                               | 0.6                | 14.9        | 0.3                                | 82.9                 | 1.3                    |
| 1996–97                                | 0.8                               | 6.9                | 25.0        | 11.5                               | 43.9                 | 12.0                   |
| 1997–98                                | 0.3                               | 5.1                | 3.1         | 62.2                               | 3.2                  | 26.2                   |
| Transfer status through 1998           |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not transfer                       | 0.4                               | 3.3                | 10.7        | 52.7                               | 32.9                 | †                      |
| Transferred                            | 0.0                               | 8.5                | 2.4         | 2.2                                | 0.0                  | 86.8                   |
| First transfer direction               |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not transfer                       | 0.4                               | 3.3                | 10.7        | 52.7                               | 32.9                 | †                      |
| Downward transfer                      | 0.0                               | 0.9                | 1.1         | 3.9                                | 0.0                  | 94.2                   |
| Upward or lateral transfer             | 0.1                               | 10.6               | 2.8         | 1.8                                | 0.0                  | 84.8                   |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998     |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Continuously enrolled                  | 0.4                               | 5.3                | 10.0        | 39.4                               | 30.7                 | 14.3                   |
| Not continuously enrolled              | 0.0                               | 0.3                | 3.0         | 53.8                               | 0.0                  | 42.9                   |

\*Postsecondary education.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.0c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|   | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
| Total   | 0.3                               | 4.5                | 8.9         | 41.7                               | 25.7                 | 18.9                   |
| Gender  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Male  | 0.4                               | 4.4                | 7.6         | 43.3                               | 25.4                 | 18.9                   |
| Female  | 0.3                               | 4.5                | 9.8         | 40.4                               | 26.1                 | 19.0                   |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| 18 years or younger                             | 0.2                               | 5.2                | 3.1         | 50.9                               | 17.6                 | 23.0                   |
| 19 years  | 0.6                               | 4.4                | 6.7         | 41.4                               | 25.6                 | 21.4                   |
| 20–23 years                                     | 1.2                               | 3.5                | 17.5        | 33.1                               | 32.3                 | 12.4                   |
| 24–29 years                                     | 0.0                               | 3.0                | 26.3        | 19.4                               | 44.5                 | 6.8                    |
| 30 or older                                     | 0.1                               | 2.8                | 21.1        | 18.6                               | 48.3                 | 9.2                    |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 0.3                               | 5.0                | 8.2         | 41.8                               | 25.3                 | 19.4                   |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 0.0                               | 3.9                | 12.3        | 34.1                               | 32.9                 | 16.8                   |
| Hispanic  | 0.8                               | 3.1                | 11.2        | 43.5                               | 23.8                 | 17.7                   |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 0.2                               | 2.1                | 5.1         | 51.3                               | 23.3                 | 18.1                   |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 0.0                               | 2.5                | 5.4         | 40.3                               | 28.0                 | 23.7                   |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 0.4                               | 4.8                | 4.5         | 49.3                               | 18.6                 | 22.4                   |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 0.3                               | 3.0                | 18.8        | 23.9                               | 42.9                 | 11.1                   |
| Single with children                            | 0.0                               | 5.5                | 20.4        | 27.2                               | 37.3                 | 9.6                    |
| Married   | 0.0                               | 2.2                | 22.2        | 18.4                               | 49.3                 | 7.8                    |
| Parental education                              |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| High school diploma or less                     | 0.3                               | 4.8                | 13.5        | 34.8                               | 32.2                 | 14.4                   |
| Some postsecondary                              | 0.3                               | 4.7                | 7.7         | 39.6                               | 27.0                 | 20.8                   |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 0.3                               | 5.9                | 3.5         | 47.7                               | 17.8                 | 24.9                   |
| Advanced degree                                 | 0.5                               | 2.5                | 1.1         | 59.9                               | 13.0                 | 23.0                   |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 0.3                               | 3.6                | 11.4        | 46.0                               | 20.9                 | 17.8                   |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 0.5                               | 5.9                | 5.4         | 44.8                               | 21.2                 | 22.2                   |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 0.1                               | 4.7                | 13.0        | 25.0                               | 45.6                 | 11.6                   |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 0.6                               | 5.3                | 7.5         | 47.5                               | 20.5                 | 18.6                   |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 0.3                               | 5.2                | 5.3         | 44.5                               | 21.1                 | 23.5                   |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 0.4                               | 4.6                | 2.6         | 49.3                               | 21.1                 | 22.0                   |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 0.3                               | 4.1                | 2.3         | 55.8                               | 11.7                 | 25.9                   |

**Table 3.0c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics—Continued**

|                                    | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|                                    | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
| Independent student income in 1994 |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Less than \$6,000                  | 0.0                               | 4.5                | 17.8        | 23.9                               | 40.3                 | 13.6                   |
| \$6,000–14,999                     | 0.1                               | 4.8                | 20.8        | 19.2                               | 43.0                 | 12.1                   |
| \$15,000–24,999                    | 0.0                               | 2.4                | 27.5        | 25.5                               | 39.1                 | 5.5                    |
| \$25,000 or greater                | 0.2                               | 2.6                | 15.5        | 19.7                               | 54.1                 | 7.9                    |

\*Postsecondary education.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.0d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                                  |                        |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
|  | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE <sup>1</sup> | No degree, transferred |
| Total                                      | 0.3                               | 4.5                | 8.9         | 41.7                               | 25.7                             | 18.9                   |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| None                                       | 0.3                               | 5.8                | 2.8         | 55.9                               | 11.7                             | 23.5                   |
| One  | 0.8                               | 4.4                | 7.1         | 40.1                               | 25.2                             | 22.5                   |
| Two or three                               | 0.1                               | 2.5                | 16.7        | 28.5                               | 38.3                             | 13.8                   |
| Four or more                               | 0.0                               | 3.5                | 18.1        | 22.3                               | 47.2                             | 8.9                    |
| High school diploma or equivalency status  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| High school diploma                        | 0.3                               | 4.6                | 7.3         | 43.5                               | 24.8                             | 19.5                   |
| GED/high school equivalent <sup>2</sup>    | 0.0                               | 4.1                | 21.5        | 31.1                               | 28.6                             | 14.7                   |
| None <sup>2</sup>                          | 0.0                               | 1.9                | 24.3        | 9.6                                | 52.6                             | 11.7                   |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment           |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Did not delay                              | 0.1                               | 5.1                | 3.2         | 50.7                               | 17.4                             | 23.5                   |
| Delayed <sup>2</sup>                       | 0.7                               | 3.5                | 17.3        | 28.6                               | 38.1                             | 11.8                   |
| Attendance status when first enrolled      |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Full-time                                  | 0.4                               | 5.3                | 8.9         | 45.4                               | 20.3                             | 19.6                   |
| Part-time <sup>2</sup>                     | 0.1                               | 2.2                | 8.8         | 32.2                               | 39.6                             | 17.1                   |
| Dependency status when first enrolled      |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Dependent                                  | 0.4                               | 4.8                | 4.5         | 49.3                               | 18.6                             | 22.4                   |
| Independent <sup>2</sup>                   | 0.1                               | 3.6                | 20.9        | 21.9                               | 43.9                             | 9.6                    |
| Number of children when first enrolled     |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| None                                       | 0.4                               | 4.6                | 6.6         | 45.7                               | 21.9                             | 20.8                   |
| One or more <sup>2</sup>                   | 0.0                               | 3.8                | 21.0        | 22.8                               | 43.8                             | 8.6                    |
| Single parent status when first enrolled   |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Not a single parent                        | 0.3                               | 4.4                | 7.7         | 43.7                               | 24.1                             | 19.8                   |
| Single parent <sup>2</sup>                 | 0.0                               | 5.5                | 20.4        | 27.2                               | 37.3                             | 9.6                    |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96              |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Did not work                               | 0.3                               | 3.6                | 11.4        | 46.0                               | 20.9                             | 17.8                   |
| Worked part time                           | 0.5                               | 6.6                | 6.7         | 44.4                               | 19.6                             | 22.3                   |
| Worked full time <sup>2</sup>              | 0.2                               | 3.4                | 11.3        | 28.4                               | 44.1                             | 12.7                   |

<sup>1</sup>Postsecondary education.

<sup>2</sup>Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.1a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by first institution type and first degree program**

|   | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                         |                           |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|   | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE* | No degree,<br>transferred |
| Less-than-4-year institutions           |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Total                                   | 6.5                                  | 14.5        | 26.5                               | 34.6                    | 17.9                      |
| Type of first institution               |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| 2-year                                  |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Public                                  | 6.0                                  | 6.5         | 31.6                               | 35.4                    | 20.6                      |
| Private, not-for-profit                 | 30.1                                 | 11.3        | 12.7                               | 24.8                    | 21.1                      |
| Private, for-profit                     | 23.3                                 | 22.6        | 12.7                               | 33.0                    | 8.5                       |
| Less-than-2-year                        |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Public                                  | †                                    | 48.6        | 5.3                                | 36.7                    | 9.5                       |
| Private, for-profit                     | †                                    | 55.4        | 7.2                                | 30.5                    | 6.9                       |
| Level of first institution              |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| 2-year                                  | 7.6                                  | 7.7         | 29.9                               | 35.1                    | 19.7                      |
| Less-than-2-year                        | 0.0                                  | 53.5        | 6.9                                | 32.1                    | 7.5                       |
| Control of first institution            |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Public                                  | 5.8                                  | 8.0         | 30.6                               | 35.5                    | 20.2                      |
| Private, not-for-profit                 | 26.7                                 | 11.4        | 12.7                               | 28.8                    | 20.4                      |
| Private, for-profit                     | 8.0                                  | 44.1        | 9.1                                | 31.4                    | 7.4                       |
| Degree program at first institution     |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Certificate                             | 1.4                                  | 40.7        | 13.8                               | 35.9                    | 8.1                       |
| Associate's degree                      | 8.8                                  | 2.7         | 32.2                               | 34.1                    | 22.3                      |
| Degree goal at first institution        |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| None                                    | 1.4                                  | 8.6         | 11.7                               | 49.5                    | 28.9                      |
| Certificate                             | 1.3                                  | 46.7        | 12.1                               | 33.5                    | 6.4                       |
| Associate's degree                      | 13.3                                 | 4.6         | 35.7                               | 33.8                    | 12.7                      |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year | 5.2                                  | 1.0         | 31.7                               | 25.4                    | 36.6                      |
| Transfer or degree expectation          |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| No degree, no transfer                  | 0.1                                  | 9.3         | 13.7                               | 55.7                    | 21.2                      |
| Degree, no transfer                     | 7.2                                  | 25.2        | 23.2                               | 35.4                    | 9.0                       |
| Degree, transfer                        | 13.4                                 | 1.6         | 35.1                               | 28.0                    | 21.9                      |
| No degree, transfer                     | 5.5                                  | 1.2         | 30.8                               | 26.2                    | 36.3                      |
| Program/field at first institution      |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Vocational certificate                  | 1.4                                  | 40.7        | 13.8                               | 35.9                    | 8.1                       |
| Associate's applied fields              | 12.2                                 | 4.0         | 31.8                               | 36.3                    | 15.7                      |
| Associate's liberal arts/uncertain      | 5.4                                  | 1.5         | 32.5                               | 31.8                    | 28.8                      |

**Table 3.1a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by first institution type and first degree program —Continued**

|   | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                         |                           |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|   | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE* | No degree,<br>transferred |
| Purpose for enrolling                   |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Job skills                              | 5.2                                  | 28.2        | 15.1                               | 42.9                    | 8.7                       |
| Degree or certificate                   | 8.0                                  | 12.4        | 28.5                               | 37.2                    | 13.9                      |
| Transfer to 4-year                      | 10.9                                 | 1.1         | 38.0                               | 22.1                    | 27.9                      |
| Other                                   | 5.0                                  | 12.1        | 20.0                               | 42.1                    | 20.8                      |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| None                                    | †                                    | †           | 33.4                               | 45.5                    | 21.1                      |
| Certificate                             | 2.0                                  | 84.9        | 5.6                                | †                       | 7.5                       |
| Associate's degree                      | 89.0                                 | †           | 2.6                                | †                       | 8.4                       |

\*Postsecondary education.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.1b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by attendance patterns**

|  | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                         |                           |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE* | No degree,<br>transferred |
| Less-than-4-year institutions          |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Total                                  | 6.5                                  | 14.5        | 26.5                               | 34.6                    | 17.9                      |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998 |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Less than 12 months                    | 0.7                                  | 19.7        | 7.0                                | 67.3                    | 5.3                       |
| 12–24 months                           | 6.7                                  | 17.4        | 27.1                               | 26.1                    | 22.7                      |
| 25 months or more                      | 13.5                                 | 5.4         | 49.6                               | 2.9                     | 28.7                      |
| Intensity pattern through 1998         |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Always full-time                       | 12.1                                 | 21.5        | 17.6                               | 31.6                    | 17.3                      |
| Mixed                                  | 4.1                                  | 9.0         | 39.8                               | 19.8                    | 27.3                      |
| Always part-time                       | 0.1                                  | 10.2        | 21.8                               | 63.7                    | 4.2                       |
| Academic year of last enrollment       |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| 1995–96                                | 0.6                                  | 17.1        | 0.1                                | 80.9                    | 1.3                       |
| 1996–97                                | 7.5                                  | 31.2        | 10.4                               | 42.3                    | 8.5                       |
| 1997–98                                | 9.6                                  | 6.1         | 48.4                               | 4.5                     | 31.5                      |
| Transfer status through 1998           |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Did not transfer                       | 4.4                                  | 17.5        | 33.6                               | 44.5                    | †                         |
| Transferred                            | 13.9                                 | 4.0         | 1.6                                | 0.0                     | 80.6                      |
| First transfer direction               |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Did not transfer                       | 4.4                                  | 17.5        | 33.6                               | 44.5                    | †                         |
| Downward transfer                      | 4.2                                  | 5.7         | 0.0                                | 0.0                     | 90.1                      |
| Upward or lateral transfer             | 14.6                                 | 3.9         | 1.7                                | 0.0                     | 79.9                      |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998     |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Continuously enrolled                  | 7.9                                  | 16.8        | 19.8                               | 42.7                    | 12.7                      |
| Not continuously enrolled              | 0.3                                  | 4.4         | 55.1                               | 0.0                     | 40.2                      |

\*Postsecondary education.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.1c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                         |                           |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|   | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE* | No degree,<br>transferred |
| Less-than-4-year institutions                   |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Total   | 6.5                                  | 14.5        | 26.5                               | 34.6                    | 17.9                      |
| Gender  |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Male  | 6.4                                  | 12.0        | 30.3                               | 32.5                    | 18.9                      |
| Female  | 6.6                                  | 16.3        | 23.4                               | 36.6                    | 17.2                      |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| 18 years or younger                             | 10.3                                 | 6.5         | 30.3                               | 27.2                    | 25.7                      |
| 19 years  | 5.7                                  | 10.0        | 31.9                               | 31.4                    | 21.1                      |
| 20–23 years                                     | 3.9                                  | 21.2        | 31.5                               | 33.3                    | 10.2                      |
| 24–29 years                                     | 2.4                                  | 28.9        | 16.3                               | 46.0                    | 6.5                       |
| 30 or older                                     | 2.7                                  | 23.1        | 15.7                               | 48.9                    | 9.6                       |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 7.6                                  | 13.7        | 24.8                               | 34.5                    | 19.3                      |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 5.7                                  | 17.8        | 22.3                               | 41.1                    | 13.1                      |
| Hispanic  | 3.8                                  | 16.7        | 35.4                               | 29.0                    | 15.2                      |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 3.7                                  | 10.4        | 26.7                               | 41.3                    | 17.8                      |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 1.3                                  | 7.8         | 26.7                               | 36.5                    | 27.8                      |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 8.7                                  | 8.7         | 31.6                               | 27.2                    | 23.8                      |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 2.6                                  | 22.4        | 17.2                               | 47.6                    | 10.2                      |
| Single with children                            | 5.7                                  | 22.1        | 25.4                               | 37.3                    | 9.5                       |
| Married   | 2.1                                  | 25.0        | 15.0                               | 50.2                    | 7.7                       |
| Parental education                              |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| High school diploma or less                     | 5.9                                  | 18.4        | 26.5                               | 37.2                    | 12.0                      |
| Some postsecondary                              | 6.0                                  | 11.6        | 29.5                               | 33.5                    | 19.5                      |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 10.8                                 | 6.6         | 27.8                               | 26.8                    | 28.2                      |
| Advanced degree                                 | 7.9                                  | 2.3         | 18.3                               | 31.9                    | 39.7                      |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 5.4                                  | 22.2        | 23.2                               | 33.0                    | 16.2                      |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 9.3                                  | 9.1         | 30.4                               | 28.5                    | 22.8                      |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 5.3                                  | 14.9        | 21.2                               | 47.9                    | 10.8                      |

**Table 3.1c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics—Continued**

|                                    | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                         |                           |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|                                    | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE* | No degree,<br>transferred |
| Dependent family income in 1994    |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Less than \$25,000                 | 7.9                                  | 12.6        | 38.0                               | 25.7                    | 15.8                      |
| \$25,000–44,999                    | 8.8                                  | 8.9         | 29.3                               | 27.2                    | 25.9                      |
| \$45,000–69,999                    | 8.1                                  | 5.3         | 28.9                               | 34.7                    | 22.9                      |
| \$70,000 or greater                | 10.9                                 | 5.6         | 26.7                               | 19.6                    | 37.2                      |
| Independent student income in 1994 |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Less than \$6,000                  | 4.8                                  | 20.5        | 20.3                               | 41.1                    | 13.3                      |
| \$6,000–14,999                     | 4.6                                  | 22.9        | 16.2                               | 44.3                    | 12.0                      |
| \$15,000–24,999                    | 2.3                                  | 30.4        | 23.1                               | 40.1                    | 4.2                       |
| \$25,000 or greater                | 2.6                                  | 17.1        | 16.1                               | 56.0                    | 8.3                       |

\*Postsecondary education.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.1d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                                     |                           |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE <sup>1</sup> | No degree,<br>transferred |
|  | Less-than-4-year institutions        |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Total                                      | 6.5                                  | 14.5        | 26.5                               | 34.6                                | 17.9                      |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| None                                       | 16.0                                 | 8.3         | 27.1                               | 18.3                                | 30.4                      |
| One  | 5.8                                  | 9.8         | 32.8                               | 29.5                                | 22.2                      |
| Two or three                               | 2.4                                  | 18.9        | 26.8                               | 39.5                                | 12.4                      |
| Four or more                               | 3.5                                  | 19.8        | 19.7                               | 47.9                                | 9.0                       |
| High school diploma or equivalency status  |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| High school diploma                        | 7.1                                  | 12.6        | 27.0                               | 34.5                                | 18.8                      |
| GED/high school equivalent <sup>2</sup>    | 3.7                                  | 23.8        | 30.0                               | 28.8                                | 13.7                      |
| None <sup>2</sup>                          | 2.0                                  | 25.1        | 8.5                                | 53.5                                | 11.0                      |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment           |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Did not delay                              | 9.7                                  | 6.5         | 31.3                               | 26.1                                | 26.3                      |
| Delayed <sup>2</sup>                       | 3.7                                  | 21.3        | 23.2                               | 41.5                                | 10.3                      |
| Attendance status when first enrolled      |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Full-time                                  | 9.3                                  | 17.6        | 24.4                               | 29.7                                | 19.0                      |
| Part-time <sup>2</sup>                     | 2.4                                  | 9.8         | 29.6                               | 42.0                                | 16.3                      |
| Dependency status when first enrolled      |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Dependent                                  | 8.7                                  | 8.7         | 31.6                               | 27.2                                | 23.8                      |
| Independent <sup>2</sup>                   | 3.6                                  | 23.5        | 18.6                               | 45.1                                | 9.2                       |
| Number of children when first enrolled     |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| None                                       | 7.4                                  | 11.9        | 28.6                               | 31.4                                | 20.8                      |
| One or more <sup>2</sup>                   | 4.0                                  | 23.1        | 20.4                               | 44.0                                | 8.5                       |
| Single parent status when first enrolled   |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Not a single parent                        | 6.8                                  | 13.3        | 26.8                               | 33.9                                | 19.2                      |
| Single parent                              | 5.7                                  | 22.1        | 25.4                               | 37.3                                | 9.5                       |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96              |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Did not work                               | 5.4                                  | 22.2        | 23.2                               | 33.0                                | 16.2                      |
| Worked part time                           | 10.6                                 | 11.5        | 28.9                               | 26.1                                | 22.9                      |
| Worked full time <sup>2</sup>              | 3.8                                  | 13.4        | 23.9                               | 47.4                                | 11.5                      |

<sup>1</sup>Postsecondary education.

<sup>2</sup>Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.2a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by first institution type and first degree program**

|  | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                         |                           |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE* | No degree,<br>transferred |
|  | Public less-than-4-year institutions |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Total                                      | 5.8                                  | 8.0         | 30.6                               | 35.5                    | 20.2                      |
| Level of first institution                 |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| 2-year                                     | 6.0                                  | 6.5         | 31.6                               | 35.4                    | 20.6                      |
| Less-than-2-year                           | †                                    | 48.6        | 5.3                                | 36.7                    | 9.5                       |
| Degree program at first institution        |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Certificate                                | 1.4                                  | 29.7        | 19.9                               | 40.3                    | 8.7                       |
| Associate's degree                         | 6.8                                  | 2.5         | 33.4                               | 34.3                    | 23.1                      |
| Degree goal at first institution           |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| None                                       | 1.7                                  | 2.3         | 13.1                               | 50.1                    | 32.9                      |
| Certificate                                | 2.0                                  | 36.8        | 17.5                               | 38.2                    | 5.6                       |
| Associate's                                | 10.0                                 | 4.2         | 38.0                               | 34.6                    | 13.2                      |
| Bachelor's degree or<br>transfer to 4-year | 4.5                                  | 1.0         | 32.1                               | 25.4                    | 37.0                      |
| Transfer or degree expectation             |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| No degree, no transfer                     | 0.0                                  | 1.8         | 16.6                               | 58.2                    | 23.5                      |
| Degree, no transfer                        | 5.9                                  | 16.6        | 29.9                               | 38.0                    | 9.7                       |
| Degree, transfer                           | 12.5                                 | 1.4         | 35.8                               | 28.2                    | 22.2                      |
| No degree, transfer                        | 5.0                                  | 1.0         | 31.2                               | 26.1                    | 36.8                      |
| Program/field at first institution         |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Vocational certificate                     | 1.4                                  | 29.7        | 19.9                               | 40.3                    | 8.7                       |
| Associate's applied fields                 | 8.8                                  | 3.6         | 34.2                               | 37.0                    | 16.4                      |
| Associate's liberal arts/uncertain         | 5.2                                  | 1.5         | 32.6                               | 31.9                    | 28.7                      |
| Purpose for enrolling                      |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Job skills                                 | 3.7                                  | 15.6        | 21.3                               | 50.2                    | 9.3                       |
| Degree or certificate                      | 5.4                                  | 9.7         | 31.8                               | 38.6                    | 14.6                      |
| Transfer to 4-year                         | 10.5                                 | 1.0         | 38.3                               | 22.2                    | 28.0                      |
| Other                                      | 3.4                                  | 8.3         | 22.6                               | 42.9                    | 22.8                      |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained    |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| None                                       | †                                    | †           | 35.4                               | 42.4                    | 22.2                      |
| Certificate                                | 1.6                                  | 80.8        | 8.7                                | †                       | 9.0                       |
| Associate's degree                         | 85.7                                 | †           | 3.1                                | †                       | 11.1                      |

\*Postsecondary education.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.2b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by attendance patterns**

|  | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                         |                           |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE* | No degree,<br>transferred |
| Public less-than-4-year institutions   |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Total                                  | 5.8                                  | 8.0         | 30.6                               | 35.5                    | 20.2                      |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998 |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Less than 12 months                    | 0.3                                  | 11.3        | 8.0                                | 74.7                    | 5.8                       |
| 12–24 months                           | 4.0                                  | 8.9         | 31.6                               | 30.2                    | 25.3                      |
| 25 months or more                      | 12.2                                 | 4.2         | 51.1                               | 2.8                     | 29.7                      |
| Intensity pattern through 1998         |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Always full-time                       | 12.8                                 | 11.5        | 22.5                               | 30.4                    | 22.9                      |
| Mixed                                  | 3.6                                  | 5.5         | 42.2                               | 20.6                    | 28.0                      |
| Always part-time                       | 0.0                                  | 7.3         | 23.0                               | 65.4                    | 4.4                       |
| Academic year of last enrollment       |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| 1995–96                                | 0.4                                  | 11.6        | 0.0                                | 86.3                    | 1.7                       |
| 1996–97                                | 5.8                                  | 16.1        | 12.9                               | 54.7                    | 10.5                      |
| 1997–98                                | 8.4                                  | 3.7         | 51.3                               | 4.3                     | 32.3                      |
| Transfer status through 1998           |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Did not transfer                       | 3.0                                  | 10.0        | 40.0                               | 47.0                    | †                         |
| Transferred                            | 14.3                                 | 1.6         | 1.8                                | 0.0                     | 82.3                      |
| First transfer direction               |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Did not transfer                       | 3.0                                  | 10.0        | 40.0                               | 47.0                    | †                         |
| Downward transfer                      | —                                    | —           | —                                  | —                       | —                         |
| Upward or lateral transfer             | 15.0                                 | 1.3         | 1.9                                | 0.0                     | 81.9                      |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998     |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Continuously enrolled                  | 7.1                                  | 9.5         | 23.8                               | 44.2                    | 15.4                      |
| Not continuously enrolled              | 0.3                                  | 1.8         | 58.6                               | 0.0                     | 39.4                      |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Postsecondary education.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.2c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                         |                           |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|   | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE* | No degree,<br>transferred |
| Public less-than-4-year institutions            |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Total   | 5.8                                  | 8.0         | 30.6                               | 35.5                    | 20.2                      |
| Gender  |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Male  | 5.1                                  | 8.1         | 33.9                               | 32.2                    | 20.8                      |
| Female  | 6.3                                  | 7.9         | 27.6                               | 38.7                    | 19.6                      |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| 18 years or younger                             | 9.3                                  | 4.2         | 32.4                               | 26.6                    | 27.6                      |
| 19 years  | 4.4                                  | 2.6         | 36.6                               | 32.7                    | 23.8                      |
| 20–23 years                                     | 3.2                                  | 7.2         | 42.5                               | 35.6                    | 11.5                      |
| 24–29 years                                     | 1.0                                  | 24.6        | 19.5                               | 49.4                    | 5.6                       |
| 30 or older                                     | 1.6                                  | 13.8        | 19.1                               | 54.5                    | 11.1                      |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 6.8                                  | 8.6         | 28.1                               | 35.4                    | 21.2                      |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 5.8                                  | 10.7        | 27.7                               | 42.6                    | 13.2                      |
| Hispanic  | 2.1                                  | 5.1         | 44.2                               | 29.3                    | 19.4                      |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 2.5                                  | 2.0         | 31.3                               | 43.0                    | 21.3                      |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | —                                    | —           | —                                  | —                       | —                         |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 7.8                                  | 4.4         | 34.6                               | 27.4                    | 25.8                      |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 1.2                                  | 9.7         | 21.1                               | 57.4                    | 10.7                      |
| Single with children                            | 5.5                                  | 12.9        | 34.2                               | 38.1                    | 9.3                       |
| Married   | 1.1                                  | 19.9        | 17.4                               | 53.2                    | 8.4                       |
| Parental education                              |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| High school diploma or less                     | 5.1                                  | 10.5        | 31.8                               | 39.5                    | 13.2                      |
| Some postsecondary                              | 4.5                                  | 6.3         | 32.7                               | 35.0                    | 21.5                      |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 10.7                                 | 3.1         | 30.5                               | 25.9                    | 29.8                      |
| Advanced degree                                 | 7.2                                  | 0.1         | 19.0                               | 32.7                    | 41.0                      |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 4.8                                  | 9.5         | 31.6                               | 33.4                    | 20.7                      |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 7.5                                  | 5.0         | 33.5                               | 29.6                    | 24.5                      |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 5.0                                  | 11.2        | 23.3                               | 49.0                    | 11.5                      |

**Table 3.2c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics—Continued**

|                                    | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                         |                           |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|                                    | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE* | No degree,<br>transferred |
| Dependent income                   |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Less than \$25,000                 | 7.5                                  | 6.3         | 44.1                               | 24.8                    | 17.3                      |
| \$25,000–44,999                    | 7.3                                  | 4.2         | 32.4                               | 27.9                    | 28.2                      |
| \$45,000–69,999                    | 7.1                                  | 3.4         | 30.5                               | 35.1                    | 23.9                      |
| \$70,000 or greater                | 10.0                                 | 3.1         | 27.9                               | 19.6                    | 39.4                      |
| Independent student income in 1994 |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Less than \$6,000                  | 3.1                                  | 8.8         | 27.1                               | 45.8                    | 15.1                      |
| \$6,000–14,999                     | 4.2                                  | 13.0        | 20.3                               | 49.7                    | 12.8                      |
| \$15,000–24,999                    | 1.9                                  | 26.8        | 26.6                               | 41.3                    | 3.5                       |
| \$25,000 or greater                | 0.8                                  | 8.5         | 18.9                               | 61.7                    | 10.2                      |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Postsecondary education.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.2d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                                     |                           |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE <sup>1</sup> | No degree,<br>transferred |
|  | Public less-than-4-year institutions |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Total                                      | 5.8                                  | 8.0         | 30.6                               | 35.5                                | 20.2                      |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| None                                       | 15.3                                 | 4.6         | 29.0                               | 17.0                                | 34.0                      |
| One  | 4.5                                  | 3.8         | 37.8                               | 29.7                                | 24.1                      |
| Two or three                               | 1.1                                  | 11.0        | 32.6                               | 41.7                                | 13.6                      |
| Four or more                               | 3.1                                  | 13.1        | 22.8                               | 51.6                                | 9.4                       |
| High school diploma or equivalency status  |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| High school diploma                        | 6.2                                  | 6.8         | 30.7                               | 35.5                                | 20.9                      |
| GED/high school equivalent <sup>2</sup>    | 2.8                                  | 16.9        | 37.4                               | 27.1                                | 15.8                      |
| None <sup>2</sup>                          | 3.2                                  | 14.3        | 10.4                               | 58.1                                | 14.0                      |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment           |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Did not delay                              | 8.6                                  | 3.7         | 33.5                               | 25.9                                | 28.3                      |
| Delayed <sup>2</sup>                       | 2.6                                  | 12.6        | 28.8                               | 45.1                                | 11.0                      |
| Attendance status when first enrolled      |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Full-time                                  | 8.9                                  | 8.8         | 30.2                               | 29.2                                | 22.9                      |
| Part-time <sup>2</sup>                     | 2.1                                  | 7.0         | 31.2                               | 42.7                                | 17.0                      |
| Dependency status when first enrolled      |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Dependent                                  | 7.8                                  | 4.4         | 34.6                               | 27.4                                | 25.8                      |
| Independent <sup>2</sup>                   | 2.6                                  | 15.4        | 22.9                               | 49.5                                | 9.7                       |
| Number of children when first enrolled     |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| None                                       | 6.5                                  | 6.3         | 32.2                               | 32.1                                | 22.9                      |
| One or more <sup>2</sup>                   | 3.6                                  | 15.1        | 25.6                               | 46.9                                | 8.8                       |
| Single parent status when first enrolled   |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Not a single parent                        | 6.0                                  | 7.4         | 30.4                               | 34.7                                | 21.4                      |
| Single parent <sup>2</sup>                 | 5.5                                  | 12.9        | 34.2                               | 38.1                                | 9.3                       |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96              |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Did not work                               | 4.8                                  | 9.5         | 31.6                               | 33.4                                | 20.7                      |
| Worked part time                           | 9.6                                  | 6.7         | 32.2                               | 26.1                                | 25.3                      |
| Worked full time <sup>2</sup>              | 2.8                                  | 10.1        | 26.0                               | 49.3                                | 11.9                      |

<sup>1</sup>Postsecondary education.

<sup>2</sup>Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.3a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by first institution type and first degree program**

|   | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                         |                           |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|   | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE* | No degree,<br>transferred |
| Private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Total   | 8.0                                  | 44.1        | 9.1                                | 31.4                    | 7.4                       |
| Level of first institution                        |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| 2-year  | 23.3                                 | 22.6        | 12.7                               | 33.0                    | 8.5                       |
| Less-than-2-year                                  | †                                    | 55.4        | 7.2                                | 30.5                    | 6.9                       |
| Degree program at first institution               |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Certificate                                       | 1.2                                  | 54.2        | 6.9                                | 30.7                    | 7.0                       |
| Associate's degree                                | 34.6                                 | 4.7         | 17.8                               | 33.8                    | 9.2                       |
| Degree goal at first institution                  |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| None  | 0.3                                  | 34.1        | 5.9                                | 48.4                    | 11.3                      |
| Certificate                                       | 0.2                                  | 58.0        | 6.6                                | 28.3                    | 6.9                       |
| Associate's                                       | 41.8                                 | 6.5         | 16.4                               | 28.6                    | 6.8                       |
| Bachelor's degree or<br>transfer to 4-year        | —                                    | —           | —                                  | —                       | —                         |
| Transfer or degree expectation                    |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| No degree, no transfer                            | 0.4                                  | 39.5        | 2.1                                | 47.4                    | 10.6                      |
| Degree, no transfer                               | 8.4                                  | 46.2        | 8.7                                | 29.7                    | 7.1                       |
| Degree, transfer                                  | —                                    | —           | —                                  | —                       | —                         |
| No degree, transfer                               | —                                    | —           | —                                  | —                       | —                         |
| Program/field at first institution                |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Vocational certificate                            | 1.2                                  | 54.2        | 6.9                                | 30.7                    | 7.0                       |
| Associate's applied fields                        | 34.6                                 | 4.7         | 17.8                               | 33.8                    | 9.2                       |
| Associate's liberal arts/uncertain                | —                                    | —           | —                                  | —                       | —                         |
| Purpose for enrolling                             |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Job skills  | 6.3                                  | 50.9        | 4.8                                | 30.6                    | 7.5                       |
| Degree or certificate                             | 20.0                                 | 29.1        | 11.6                               | 31.1                    | 8.2                       |
| Transfer to 4-year                                | —                                    | —           | —                                  | —                       | —                         |
| Other   | 11.3                                 | 35.0        | 5.1                                | 40.4                    | 8.2                       |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained           |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| None  | †                                    | †           | 17.6                               | 72.0                    | 10.4                      |
| Certificate                                       | 2.2                                  | 89.2        | 2.7                                | †                       | 5.9                       |
| Associate's degree                                | 99.0                                 | †           | 1.0                                | †                       | †                         |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Postsecondary education.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.3b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by attendance patterns**

|  | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                         |                           |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE* | No degree,<br>transferred |
| Private for-profit less-than-4-year institutions |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Total  | 8.0                                  | 44.1        | 9.1                                | 31.4                    | 7.4                       |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998           |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Less than 12 months                              | 1.5                                  | 43.6        | 4.0                                | 47.2                    | 3.7                       |
| 12–24 months                                     | 13.6                                 | 49.6        | 11.7                               | 11.8                    | 13.3                      |
| 25 months or more                                | 29.1                                 | 25.7        | 32.6                               | 3.7                     | 8.9                       |
| Intensity pattern through 1998                   |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Always full-time                                 | 8.9                                  | 42.0        | 8.5                                | 34.0                    | 6.6                       |
| Mixed  | 7.9                                  | 51.8        | 13.3                               | 11.2                    | 15.8                      |
| Always part-time                                 | 0.7                                  | 49.4        | 7.8                                | 41.1                    | 1.1                       |
| Academic year of last enrollment                 |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| 1995–96  | 0.9                                  | 35.4        | 0.2                                | 63.5                    | †                         |
| 1996–97  | 9.1                                  | 66.9        | 5.2                                | 15.3                    | 3.6                       |
| 1997–98  | 17.0                                 | 27.7        | 26.9                               | 5.5                     | 23.0                      |
| Transfer status through 1998                     |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Did not transfer                                 | 8.3                                  | 46.3        | 10.2                               | 35.2                    | †                         |
| Transferred                                      | 5.6                                  | 26.2        | 0.0                                | 0.0                     | 68.2                      |
| First transfer direction                         |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Did not transfer                                 | 8.3                                  | 46.3        | 10.2                               | 35.2                    | 0.0                       |
| Downward transfer                                | —                                    | —           | —                                  | —                       | —                         |
| Upward or lateral transfer                       | 6.1                                  | 28.4        | 0.0                                | 0.0                     | 65.5                      |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998               |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Continuously enrolled                            | 9.3                                  | 48.4        | 4.3                                | 36.8                    | 1.2                       |
| Not continuously enrolled                        | 0.6                                  | 19.7        | 36.5                               | 0.0                     | 43.2                      |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Postsecondary education.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.3c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**

|  | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                         |                           |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE* | No degree,<br>transferred |
| Private for-profit less-than-4-year institutions |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Total  | 8.0                                  | 44.1        | 9.1                                | 31.4                    | 7.4                       |
| Gender   |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Male   | 13.0                                 | 39.9        | 7.7                                | 34.5                    | 5.0                       |
| Female   | 5.9                                  | 45.1        | 9.9                                | 30.4                    | 8.7                       |
| Age when first enrolled                          |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| 18 years or younger                              | 16.7                                 | 27.6        | 14.4                               | 33.4                    | 7.9                       |
| 19 years   | 8.3                                  | 49.4        | 9.7                                | 25.2                    | 7.5                       |
| 20–23 years                                      | 4.0                                  | 50.6        | 8.9                                | 29.2                    | 7.3                       |
| 24–29 years                                      | 6.0                                  | 43.2        | 6.4                                | 35.0                    | 9.5                       |
| 30 or older                                      | 4.9                                  | 51.9        | 5.8                                | 32.9                    | 4.5                       |
| Race/ethnicity                                   |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| White, non-Hispanic                              | 10.5                                 | 44.7        | 6.8                                | 29.9                    | 8.1                       |
| Black, non-Hispanic                              | 4.8                                  | 36.8        | 9.0                                | 37.5                    | 12.0                      |
| Hispanic   | 6.7                                  | 50.6        | 11.2                               | 28.8                    | 2.7                       |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                           | 2.0                                  | 44.3        | 11.5                               | 38.5                    | 3.7                       |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                   | —                                    | —           | —                                  | —                       | —                         |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled  |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Single, no children (dependent)                  | 12.7                                 | 43.9        | 9.3                                | 27.1                    | 7.0                       |
| Single, no children (independent)                | 5.7                                  | 59.5        | 6.8                                | 20.3                    | 7.7                       |
| Single with children                             | 5.8                                  | 39.1        | 9.5                                | 36.2                    | 9.3                       |
| Married  | 3.4                                  | 42.6        | 6.9                                | 42.0                    | 5.0                       |
| Parental education                               |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| High school diploma or less                      | 8.0                                  | 47.8        | 7.9                                | 29.5                    | 6.8                       |
| Some postsecondary                               | 10.7                                 | 45.5        | 11.7                               | 25.4                    | 6.8                       |
| Bachelor's degree                                | 7.3                                  | 35.7        | 7.0                                | 34.7                    | 15.3                      |
| Advanced degree                                  | 13.4                                 | 32.8        | 9.1                                | 26.0                    | 18.9                      |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                    |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Did not work while enrolled                      | 5.0                                  | 49.8        | 6.6                                | 32.2                    | 6.4                       |
| Student working to meet expenses                 | 18.3                                 | 40.1        | 9.4                                | 22.2                    | 10.0                      |
| Employee who is enrolled                         | 6.6                                  | 38.1        | 8.2                                | 41.9                    | 5.1                       |

**Table 3.3c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics—Continued**

|                                    | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                         |                           |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|                                    | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE* | No degree,<br>transferred |
| Dependent family income in 1994    |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Less than \$25,000                 | 7.6                                  | 44.3        | 11.7                               | 29.7                    | 6.8                       |
| \$25,000–44,999                    | 17.4                                 | 47.0        | 5.6                                | 21.9                    | 8.1                       |
| \$45,000–69,999                    | 19.3                                 | 38.4        | 5.4                                | 31.5                    | 5.4                       |
| \$70,000 or greater                | 17.8                                 | 39.6        | 13.0                               | 22.4                    | 7.2                       |
| Independent student income in 1994 |                                      |             |                                    |                         |                           |
| Less than \$6,000                  | 7.0                                  | 40.1        | 10.1                               | 32.6                    | 10.2                      |
| \$6,000–14,999                     | 4.2                                  | 45.4        | 7.1                                | 33.0                    | 10.3                      |
| \$15,000–24,999                    | 2.1                                  | 49.2        | 7.3                                | 36.1                    | 5.3                       |
| \$25,000 or greater                | 7.9                                  | 43.8        | 7.1                                | 39.7                    | 1.6                       |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Postsecondary education.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.3d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|   | Attained at<br>the first institution |             | Retention at the first institution |                                     |                           |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
|   | Associate's<br>degree                | Certificate | No degree,<br>still<br>enrolled    | No degree,<br>left PSE <sup>1</sup> | No degree,<br>transferred |
| Private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Total   | 8.0                                  | 44.1        | 9.1                                | 31.4                                | 7.4                       |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled        |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| None  | 17.5                                 | 37.3        | 14.6                               | 27.5                                | 3.2                       |
| One   | 10.2                                 | 44.6        | 6.0                                | 28.4                                | 10.8                      |
| Two or three                                      | 5.7                                  | 49.0        | 5.7                                | 31.6                                | 7.9                       |
| Four or more                                      | 4.5                                  | 41.7        | 10.2                               | 36.6                                | 7.0                       |
| High school diploma or equivalency status         |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| High school diploma                               | 9.9                                  | 44.3        | 8.9                                | 29.5                                | 7.4                       |
| GED/high school equivalent <sup>2</sup>           | 4.8                                  | 40.9        | 12.8                               | 32.7                                | 8.8                       |
| None <sup>2</sup>                                 | 0.0                                  | 42.1        | 5.5                                | 46.2                                | 6.3                       |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment                  |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Did not delay                                     | 16.3                                 | 30.8        | 15.1                               | 28.7                                | 9.2                       |
| Delayed <sup>2</sup>                              | 5.5                                  | 49.1        | 6.9                                | 31.2                                | 7.2                       |
| Attendance status when first enrolled             |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Full-time   | 8.4                                  | 43.1        | 9.3                                | 31.3                                | 8.0                       |
| Part-time <sup>2</sup>                            | 5.6                                  | 50.3        | 8.0                                | 31.8                                | 4.3                       |
| Dependency status when first enrolled             |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Dependent   | 12.7                                 | 43.9        | 9.3                                | 27.1                                | 7.0                       |
| Independent <sup>2</sup>                          | 5.1                                  | 44.1        | 8.2                                | 35.0                                | 7.7                       |
| Number of children when first enrolled            |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| None  | 10.1                                 | 45.9        | 8.6                                | 28.0                                | 7.3                       |
| One or more <sup>2</sup>                          | 4.1                                  | 42.7        | 8.3                                | 37.5                                | 7.4                       |
| Single parent status when first enrolled          |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Not a single parent                               | 8.5                                  | 46.8        | 8.1                                | 30.1                                | 6.6                       |
| Single parent                                     | 5.8                                  | 39.1        | 9.5                                | 36.2                                | 9.3                       |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96                     |                                      |             |                                    |                                     |                           |
| Did not work                                      | 5.0                                  | 49.8        | 6.6                                | 32.2                                | 6.4                       |
| Worked part time                                  | 13.6                                 | 42.9        | 9.5                                | 27.0                                | 7.1                       |
| Worked full time <sup>2</sup>                     | 10.6                                 | 37.3        | 9.3                                | 34.8                                | 7.9                       |

<sup>1</sup>Postsecondary education.

<sup>2</sup>Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.4a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by first institution type, first degree program, and academic preparation**

|   | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|   | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
| 4-year institutions                     |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Total                                   | 0.7                               | 1.5                | 0.9         | 63.5                               | 12.9                 | 20.4                   |
| Type of first institution               |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| 4-year                                  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Public                                  | 0.8                               | 1.3                | 0.7         | 64.5                               | 13.2                 | 19.6                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                 | 0.6                               | 1.7                | 1.1         | 62.9                               | 12.0                 | 21.7                   |
| Private, for-profit                     | 3.2                               | 10.7               | 4.8         | 28.5                               | 27.4                 | 25.4                   |
| Highest offering of first institution   |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Doctorate-granting                      | 0.9                               | 0.7                | 0.7         | 69.2                               | 10.5                 | 18.0                   |
| Non-doctorate-granting                  | 0.6                               | 2.5                | 1.0         | 56.9                               | 15.7                 | 23.2                   |
| Control of first institution            |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Public                                  | 0.8                               | 1.3                | 0.7         | 64.5                               | 13.2                 | 19.6                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                 | 0.6                               | 1.7                | 1.1         | 62.9                               | 12.0                 | 21.7                   |
| Private, for-profit                     | 3.2                               | 10.7               | 4.8         | 28.5                               | 27.4                 | 25.4                   |
| Degree program at first institution     |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Certificate                             | 0.0                               | 8.9                | 7.5         | 42.3                               | 24.4                 | 16.9                   |
| Associate's degree                      | 0.0                               | 14.0               | 4.2         | 27.9                               | 37.2                 | 16.8                   |
| Bachelor's degree                       | 0.8                               | 0.6                | 0.5         | 66.1                               | 11.3                 | 20.7                   |
| Degree goal at first institution        |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| None                                    | 0.0                               | 0.1                | 0.4         | 20.7                               | 23.9                 | 54.8                   |
| Certificate                             | 0.0                               | 8.7                | 13.4        | 28.6                               | 31.9                 | 17.5                   |
| Associate's degree                      | 0.0                               | 16.0               | 5.2         | 33.2                               | 33.2                 | 12.5                   |
| Bachelor's degree                       | 1.0                               | 1.2                | 0.7         | 67.8                               | 10.7                 | 18.7                   |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| None                                    | †                                 | †                  | †           | 66.2                               | 13.5                 | 20.3                   |
| Certificate                             | 5.1                               | 4.0                | 52.3        | 2.5                                | †                    | 36.2                   |
| Associate's degree                      | 4.0                               | 72.8               | †           | 8.0                                | †                    | 15.3                   |
| Met high math/science curriculum        |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not meet threshold                  | 0.5                               | 1.1                | 0.5         | 62.7                               | 11.8                 | 23.4                   |
| Met curriculum threshold                | 0.6                               | 0.8                | 0.6         | 73.8                               | 6.9                  | 17.3                   |

**Table 3.4a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by first institution type, first degree program, and academic preparation—Continued**

|  | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|  | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
| Number of Advanced Placement tests taken |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| None                                     | 0.7                               | 1.9                | 1.1         | 58.0                               | 14.9                 | 23.3                   |
| One                                      | 1.4                               | 0.5                | 1.0         | 73.8                               | 7.0                  | 16.3                   |
| More than one                            | 1.1                               | 0.4                | 0.4         | 79.9                               | 5.3                  | 12.9                   |
| Grade-point average in high school       |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| B or less                                | 0.4                               | 1.7                | 0.9         | 48.3                               | 19.5                 | 29.3                   |
| B+ to A-                                 | 0.6                               | 0.8                | 1.1         | 66.1                               | 10.0                 | 21.5                   |
| Mostly As                                | 0.7                               | 0.7                | 0.2         | 78.5                               | 4.4                  | 15.6                   |
| Derived SAT combined score               |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Low quartile (400–700)                   | 0.7                               | 1.4                | 1.6         | 48.8                               | 18.7                 | 28.8                   |
| Middle quartiles (710–1020)              | 0.5                               | 1.1                | 0.6         | 63.3                               | 11.2                 | 23.4                   |
| High quartile (1030–1600)                | 0.8                               | 0.7                | 0.3         | 76.3                               | 7.3                  | 14.6                   |

\*Postsecondary education.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.4b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by attendance patterns**

|  | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|  | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
| 4-year institutions                    |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Total                                  | 0.7                               | 1.5                | 0.9         | 63.5                               | 12.9                 | 20.4                   |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998 |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Less than 12 months                    | 0.0                               | 0.8                | 1.5         | 13.5                               | 74.7                 | 9.6                    |
| 12–24 months                           | 2.0                               | 3.4                | 2.1         | 29.1                               | 28.4                 | 35.0                   |
| 25 months or more                      | 0.6                               | 1.2                | 0.5         | 77.5                               | 1.6                  | 18.7                   |
| Intensity pattern through 1998         |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Always full-time                       | 0.8                               | 1.7                | 0.6         | 67.4                               | 12.2                 | 17.5                   |
| Mixed                                  | 0.8                               | 0.9                | 1.6         | 55.0                               | 9.5                  | 32.3                   |
| Always part-time                       | 0.0                               | 1.5                | 3.6         | 31.8                               | 51.1                 | 12.1                   |
| Academic year of last enrollment       |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| 1995–96                                | 0.0                               | 1.0                | 1.5         | 1.3                                | 94.5                 | 1.8                    |
| 1996–97                                | 3.6                               | 4.9                | 3.7         | 15.1                               | 49.0                 | 23.7                   |
| 1997–98                                | 0.5                               | 1.2                | 0.5         | 73.9                               | 2.2                  | 21.7                   |
| Transfer status through 1998           |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not transfer                       | 0.9                               | 1.8                | 1.1         | 79.8                               | 16.4                 | †                      |
| Transferred                            | 0.1                               | 0.4                | 0.0         | 3.2                                | 0.0                  | 96.2                   |
| First transfer direction               |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not transfer                       | 0.9                               | 1.8                | 1.1         | 79.8                               | 16.4                 | †                      |
| Downward transfer                      | 0.0                               | 0.1                | 0.0         | 4.8                                | 0.0                  | 95.1                   |
| Upward or lateral transfer             | 0.2                               | 0.7                | 0.0         | 2.1                                | 0.0                  | 97.0                   |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998     |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Continuously enrolled                  | 0.8                               | 1.7                | 1.0         | 65.3                               | 14.7                 | 16.4                   |
| Not continuously enrolled              | 0.0                               | 0.1                | 0.0         | 51.0                               | 0.0                  | 48.8                   |

\*Postsecondary education.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.4c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|   | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
| 4-year institutions                             |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Total   | 0.7                               | 1.5                | 0.9         | 63.5                               | 12.9                 | 20.4                   |
| Gender  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Male  | 0.9                               | 1.5                | 1.3         | 62.1                               | 15.3                 | 18.9                   |
| Female  | 0.6                               | 1.6                | 0.5         | 64.6                               | 11.1                 | 21.7                   |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| 18 years or younger                             | 0.3                               | 1.2                | 0.5         | 66.9                               | 10.1                 | 21.0                   |
| 19 years  | 1.7                               | 1.8                | 0.3         | 59.9                               | 14.2                 | 22.1                   |
| 20–23 years                                     | 5.4                               | 2.0                | 4.7         | 38.5                               | 29.0                 | 20.4                   |
| 24–29 years                                     | 0.0                               | 9.2                | 3.1         | 47.3                               | 31.2                 | 9.2                    |
| 30 or older                                     | 1.2                               | 3.3                | 3.6         | 43.2                               | 43.0                 | 5.7                    |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 0.6                               | 1.5                | 0.8         | 64.7                               | 12.9                 | 19.5                   |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 0.0                               | 0.6                | 1.7         | 56.6                               | 17.0                 | 24.1                   |
| Hispanic  | 2.3                               | 1.9                | 0.7         | 58.9                               | 13.9                 | 22.3                   |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 0.3                               | 0.7                | 0.3         | 73.2                               | 7.2                  | 18.3                   |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 0.0                               | 5.3                | 0.0         | 71.1                               | 9.1                  | 14.5                   |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 0.8                               | 1.3                | 0.7         | 65.4                               | 10.8                 | 21.2                   |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 1.8                               | 4.8                | 2.0         | 55.4                               | 20.6                 | 15.4                   |
| Single with children                            | 0.0                               | 2.9                | 4.0         | 44.6                               | 37.4                 | 11.0                   |
| Married   | 0.0                               | 2.9                | 2.9         | 42.3                               | 43.5                 | 8.5                    |
| Parental education                              |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| High school diploma or less                     | 1.1                               | 1.9                | 1.1         | 55.7                               | 19.6                 | 20.7                   |
| Some postsecondary                              | 0.7                               | 2.7                | 1.3         | 56.1                               | 16.2                 | 23.0                   |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 0.5                               | 1.2                | 0.6         | 66.7                               | 9.3                  | 21.8                   |
| Advanced degree                                 | 0.7                               | 0.6                | 0.7         | 74.6                               | 6.4                  | 17.1                   |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 0.6                               | 1.8                | 0.9         | 68.0                               | 9.4                  | 19.4                   |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 1.2                               | 1.7                | 0.8         | 62.6                               | 12.2                 | 21.6                   |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 0.6                               | 1.9                | 2.7         | 45.9                               | 33.0                 | 15.9                   |

**Table 3.4c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics—Continued**

|                                    | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|                                    | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
| Dependent family income in 1994    |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Less than \$25,000                 | 1.3                               | 1.8                | 0.7         | 60.2                               | 13.7                 | 22.4                   |
| \$25,000–44,999                    | 0.7                               | 1.1                | 1.1         | 62.3                               | 14.1                 | 20.8                   |
| \$45,000–69,999                    | 0.8                               | 1.4                | 0.3         | 67.3                               | 9.0                  | 21.2                   |
| \$70,000 or greater                | 0.4                               | 0.9                | 0.8         | 69.5                               | 8.0                  | 20.5                   |
| Independent student income in 1994 |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Less than \$6,000                  | 0.0                               | 2.4                | 1.6         | 45.1                               | 35.5                 | 15.4                   |
| \$6,000–14,999                     | 1.2                               | 6.8                | 3.0         | 43.8                               | 32.3                 | 12.9                   |
| \$15,000–24,999                    | 0.0                               | 3.7                | 1.1         | 47.5                               | 30.4                 | 17.3                   |
| \$25,000 or greater                | 1.6                               | 2.8                | 5.6         | 42.7                               | 42.3                 | 5.0                    |

\*Postsecondary education.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.4d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                                  |                        |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
|  | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE <sup>1</sup> | No degree, transferred |
|  | 4-year institutions               |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Total                                      | 0.7                               | 1.5                | 0.9         | 63.5                               | 12.9                             | 20.4                   |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| None                                       | 0.5                               | 1.2                | 0.4         | 68.7                               | 8.7                              | 20.5                   |
| One  | 2.4                               | 1.4                | 1.5         | 55.8                               | 15.8                             | 23.1                   |
| Two or three                               | 0.9                               | 3.3                | 3.3         | 39.2                               | 30.8                             | 22.6                   |
| Four or more                               | 0.0                               | 2.9                | 3.8         | 43.6                               | 41.8                             | 8.0                    |
| High school diploma or equivalency status  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| High school diploma                        | 0.8                               | 1.4                | 0.8         | 64.0                               | 12.7                             | 20.4                   |
| GED/high school equivalent <sup>2</sup>    | 0.0                               | 7.6                | 3.8         | 39.6                               | 26.7                             | 22.3                   |
| None <sup>2</sup>                          | —                                 | —                  | —           | —                                  | —                                | —                      |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment           |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Did not delay                              | 0.2                               | 1.2                | 0.4         | 67.1                               | 10.0                             | 21.1                   |
| Delayed <sup>2</sup>                       | 3.2                               | 2.9                | 2.8         | 48.5                               | 25.3                             | 17.4                   |
| Attendance status when first enrolled      |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Full time                                  | 0.8                               | 1.5                | 0.6         | 65.3                               | 11.5                             | 20.3                   |
| Part time <sup>2</sup>                     | 0.6                               | 1.4                | 3.2         | 47.4                               | 25.7                             | 21.8                   |
| Dependency status when first enrolled      |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Dependent                                  | 0.8                               | 1.3                | 0.7         | 65.4                               | 10.8                             | 21.2                   |
| Independent <sup>2</sup>                   | 0.7                               | 3.8                | 3.0         | 45.0                               | 35.1                             | 12.4                   |
| Number of children when first enrolled     |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| None                                       | 0.8                               | 1.4                | 0.8         | 64.7                               | 11.5                             | 20.8                   |
| One or more <sup>2</sup>                   | 0.0                               | 1.8                | 3.1         | 43.7                               | 41.9                             | 9.5                    |
| Single parent status when first enrolled   |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Not a single parent                        | 0.8                               | 1.4                | 0.8         | 64.3                               | 12.1                             | 20.6                   |
| Single parent                              | 0.0                               | 2.9                | 4.0         | 44.6                               | 37.4                             | 11.0                   |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96              |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Did not work                               | 0.6                               | 1.8                | 0.9         | 68.0                               | 9.4                              | 19.4                   |
| Worked part time                           | 1.0                               | 1.7                | 0.8         | 63.5                               | 11.6                             | 21.5                   |
| Worked full time <sup>2</sup>              | 0.9                               | 1.5                | 2.3         | 47.9                               | 29.7                             | 17.7                   |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

<sup>1</sup>Postsecondary education.

<sup>2</sup>Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.5a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by first institution type, first degree program, and academic preparation**

|  | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|  | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
| Public 4-year institutions               |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Total                                    | 0.8                               | 1.3                | 0.7         | 64.5                               | 13.2                 | 19.6                   |
| Highest offering of first institution    |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Doctorate-granting                       | 0.8                               | 0.5                | 0.6         | 69.6                               | 11.2                 | 17.3                   |
| Non-doctorate-granting                   | 0.7                               | 2.5                | 0.8         | 55.1                               | 17.0                 | 23.9                   |
| Degree program at first institution      |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Certificate                              | 0.0                               | 9.3                | 4.7         | 40.9                               | 28.1                 | 17.0                   |
| Associate's degree                       | 0.0                               | 12.9               | 5.5         | 32.6                               | 33.3                 | 15.7                   |
| Bachelor's degree                        | 0.8                               | 0.4                | 0.3         | 66.8                               | 11.8                 | 19.8                   |
| Degree goal at first institution         |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| None                                     | 0.0                               | 0.0                | 0.1         | 26.5                               | 21.5                 | 51.9                   |
| Certificate                              | 0.0                               | 11.3               | 7.0         | 32.5                               | 36.2                 | 13.0                   |
| Associate's degree                       | 0.0                               | 16.0               | 7.9         | 36.0                               | 31.9                 | 8.1                    |
| Bachelor's degree                        | 1.0                               | 0.9                | 0.5         | 67.2                               | 11.4                 | 19.1                   |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| None                                     | †                                 | †                  | †           | 66.8                               | 13.8                 | 19.4                   |
| Certificate                              | 1.4                               | 5.6                | 46.0        | 4.4                                | †                    | 42.7                   |
| Associate's degree                       | 7.1                               | 66.1               | †           | 12.7                               | †                    | 14.1                   |
| Met high math/science curriculum         |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not meet threshold                   | 0.4                               | 0.8                | 0.6         | 63.0                               | 12.7                 | 22.4                   |
| Met curriculum threshold                 | 0.8                               | 0.8                | 0.4         | 74.3                               | 6.7                  | 17.0                   |
| Number of Advanced Placement tests taken |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| None                                     | 0.6                               | 1.2                | 1.0         | 58.8                               | 15.1                 | 23.3                   |
| One                                      | 1.1                               | 0.5                | 0.2         | 75.9                               | 6.5                  | 15.8                   |
| More than one                            | 1.9                               | 0.6                | 0.4         | 78.9                               | 6.8                  | 11.5                   |
| Grade-point average in high school       |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| B or less                                | 0.3                               | 1.1                | 1.2         | 48.7                               | 21.1                 | 27.8                   |
| B+ to A-                                 | 0.6                               | 0.7                | 0.5         | 66.3                               | 10.3                 | 21.6                   |
| Mostly As                                | 0.6                               | 0.7                | 0.1         | 79.8                               | 4.3                  | 14.5                   |
| Derived SAT combined score               |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Low quartile (400–700)                   | 0.4                               | 1.2                | 1.2         | 49.1                               | 19.8                 | 28.3                   |
| Middle quartiles (710–1020)              | 0.4                               | 0.7                | 0.6         | 64.3                               | 11.9                 | 22.2                   |
| High quartile (1030–1600)                | 1.0                               | 0.8                | 0.3         | 76.9                               | 8.7                  | 12.3                   |

\*Postsecondary education.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.5b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by attendance patterns**

|  | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|  | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
| Public 4-year institutions             |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Total                                  | 0.8                               | 1.3                | 0.7         | 64.5                               | 13.2                 | 19.6                   |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998 |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Less than 12 months                    | 0.0                               | 0.9                | 0.5         | 16.2                               | 72.7                 | 9.8                    |
| 12–24 months                           | 2.0                               | 2.9                | 2.0         | 31.0                               | 28.5                 | 33.7                   |
| 25 months or more                      | 0.6                               | 0.9                | 0.5         | 78.7                               | 1.6                  | 17.8                   |
| Intensity pattern through 1998         |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Always full-time                       | 0.7                               | 1.4                | 0.3         | 68.1                               | 12.5                 | 17.0                   |
| Mixed                                  | 1.0                               | 0.8                | 2.0         | 56.3                               | 10.1                 | 29.7                   |
| Always part-time                       | 0.0                               | 0.4                | 1.2         | 39.6                               | 46.8                 | 12.1                   |
| Academic year of last enrollment       |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| 1995–96                                | 0.0                               | 1.2                | 0.6         | 2.0                                | 95.7                 | 0.6                    |
| 1996–97                                | 3.7                               | 5.1                | 3.4         | 19.7                               | 49.0                 | 19.0                   |
| 1997–98                                | 0.5                               | 0.8                | 0.4         | 74.8                               | 2.2                  | 21.3                   |
| Transfer status through 1998           |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not transfer                       | 0.9                               | 1.4                | 0.9         | 80.2                               | 16.6                 | †                      |
| Transferred                            | 0.2                               | 0.7                | 0.0         | 3.2                                | 0.0                  | 95.9                   |
| First transfer direction               |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not transfer                       | 0.9                               | 1.4                | 0.9         | 80.2                               | 16.6                 | †                      |
| Downward transfer                      | 0.0                               | 0.2                | 0.1         | 4.4                                | 0.0                  | 95.4                   |
| Upward or lateral transfer             | 0.3                               | 1.2                | 0.0         | 2.1                                | 0.0                  | 96.4                   |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998     |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Continuously enrolled                  | 0.9                               | 1.4                | 0.8         | 66.1                               | 15.3                 | 15.5                   |
| Not continuously enrolled              | 0.1                               | 0.2                | 0.0         | 54.3                               | 0.0                  | 45.5                   |

\*Postsecondary education.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.5c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|   | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
|   | Public 4-year institutions        |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Total   | 0.8                               | 1.3                | 0.7         | 64.5                               | 13.2                 | 19.6                   |
| Gender  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Male  | 1.2                               | 1.0                | 1.1         | 63.3                               | 15.0                 | 18.4                   |
| Female  | 0.4                               | 1.4                | 0.4         | 65.3                               | 11.9                 | 20.7                   |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| 18 years or younger                             | 0.3                               | 1.0                | 0.5         | 66.8                               | 10.7                 | 20.7                   |
| 19 years  | 2.0                               | 1.6                | 0.5         | 62.9                               | 14.1                 | 18.9                   |
| 20–23 years                                     | 5.7                               | 2.7                | 3.5         | 43.6                               | 29.6                 | 14.9                   |
| 24–29 years                                     | 0.0                               | 0.7                | 0.0         | 50.7                               | 33.2                 | 15.4                   |
| 30 or older                                     | 0.0                               | 4.4                | 1.5         | 57.3                               | 34.9                 | 1.9                    |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 0.6                               | 1.2                | 0.7         | 65.3                               | 13.8                 | 18.5                   |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 0.0                               | 0.5                | 0.5         | 58.0                               | 18.3                 | 22.7                   |
| Hispanic  | 3.0                               | 1.4                | 0.2         | 60.5                               | 9.6                  | 25.3                   |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 0.5                               | 0.4                | 0.3         | 73.9                               | 7.4                  | 17.6                   |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | —                                 | —                  | —           | —                                  | —                    | —                      |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 0.8                               | 1.1                | 0.7         | 65.6                               | 11.5                 | 20.3                   |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 0.0                               | 1.0                | 0.5         | 66.4                               | 18.9                 | 13.3                   |
| Single with children                            | 0.0                               | 0.6                | 1.1         | 53.4                               | 32.1                 | 12.8                   |
| Married   | 0.0                               | 3.6                | 0.7         | 50.1                               | 38.4                 | 7.2                    |
| Parental education                              |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| High school diploma or less                     | 1.0                               | 1.8                | 1.0         | 57.5                               | 18.6                 | 20.2                   |
| Some postsecondary                              | 1.0                               | 2.2                | 1.1         | 55.5                               | 17.5                 | 22.7                   |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 0.5                               | 0.9                | 0.6         | 67.0                               | 10.0                 | 21.1                   |
| Advanced degree                                 | 0.5                               | 0.5                | 0.3         | 77.1                               | 5.7                  | 15.9                   |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 0.7                               | 1.5                | 0.6         | 68.8                               | 8.9                  | 19.6                   |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 1.2                               | 1.4                | 0.9         | 61.2                               | 13.5                 | 21.8                   |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 0.0                               | 1.6                | 1.8         | 50.3                               | 32.0                 | 14.3                   |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 1.7                               | 1.7                | 1.1         | 61.3                               | 13.9                 | 20.3                   |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 1.0                               | 0.8                | 0.8         | 62.7                               | 14.4                 | 20.4                   |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 0.6                               | 1.2                | 0.4         | 66.1                               | 9.8                  | 21.9                   |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 0.2                               | 0.6                | 0.7         | 70.4                               | 9.3                  | 18.8                   |
| Independent student income in 1994              |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 0.0                               | 0.7                | 0.8         | 49.4                               | 35.3                 | 13.9                   |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 0.0                               | 1.6                | 1.1         | 52.2                               | 29.0                 | 16.0                   |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 0.0                               | 2.3                | 0.0         | 56.1                               | 23.8                 | 17.8                   |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 0.0                               | 3.4                | 0.9         | 52.9                               | 40.1                 | 2.8                    |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Postsecondary education.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.5d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                                  |                        |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
|  | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE <sup>1</sup> | No degree, transferred |
| Public 4-year institutions                 |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Total                                      | 0.8                               | 1.3                | 0.7         | 64.5                               | 13.2                             | 19.6                   |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| None                                       | 0.4                               | 1.1                | 0.3         | 69.3                               | 9.1                              | 19.8                   |
| One  | 3.0                               | 0.9                | 1.5         | 57.6                               | 16.9                             | 20.2                   |
| Two or three                               | 0.0                               | 1.6                | 3.3         | 39.1                               | 30.6                             | 25.4                   |
| Four or more                               | 0.0                               | 2.4                | 1.1         | 53.2                               | 36.6                             | 6.8                    |
| High school diploma or equivalency status  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| High school diploma                        | 0.8                               | 1.1                | 0.7         | 64.9                               | 13.1                             | 19.4                   |
| GED/high school equivalent <sup>2</sup>    | 0.0                               | 9.8                | 2.9         | 36.2                               | 24.7                             | 26.4                   |
| None <sup>2</sup>                          | —                                 | —                  | —           | —                                  | —                                | —                      |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment           |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Did not delay                              | 0.2                               | 1.0                | 0.5         | 67.1                               | 10.6                             | 20.6                   |
| Delayed <sup>2</sup>                       | 3.2                               | 2.2                | 1.5         | 54.2                               | 24.3                             | 14.6                   |
| Attendance status when first enrolled      |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Full-time                                  | 0.8                               | 1.3                | 0.4         | 66.2                               | 12.1                             | 19.3                   |
| Part-time <sup>2</sup>                     | 0.8                               | 1.3                | 3.0         | 50.9                               | 22.0                             | 22.0                   |
| Dependency status when first enrolled      |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Dependent                                  | 0.8                               | 1.1                | 0.7         | 65.6                               | 11.5                             | 20.3                   |
| Independent <sup>2</sup>                   | 0.0                               | 2.1                | 0.8         | 53.0                               | 32.3                             | 11.9                   |
| Number of children when first enrolled     |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| None                                       | 0.8                               | 1.1                | 0.7         | 65.4                               | 12.0                             | 20.0                   |
| One or more <sup>2</sup>                   | 0.0                               | 0.7                | 1.1         | 54.5                               | 36.5                             | 7.2                    |
| Single parent status when first enrolled   |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Not a single parent                        | 0.8                               | 1.1                | 0.7         | 65.2                               | 12.6                             | 19.6                   |
| Single parent <sup>2</sup>                 | 0.0                               | 0.6                | 1.1         | 53.4                               | 32.1                             | 12.8                   |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96              |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Did not work                               | 0.7                               | 1.5                | 0.6         | 68.8                               | 8.9                              | 19.6                   |
| Worked part time                           | 1.2                               | 1.3                | 0.8         | 61.9                               | 13.0                             | 21.8                   |
| Worked full time <sup>2</sup>              | 0.0                               | 1.3                | 1.5         | 51.9                               | 29.2                             | 16.1                   |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

<sup>1</sup>Postsecondary education.

<sup>2</sup>Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.6a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by first institution type, first degree program, and academic preparation**

|  | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|  | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
| Private not-for-profit 4-year institutions |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Total                                      | 0.6                               | 1.7                | 1.1         | 62.9                               | 12.0                 | 21.7                   |
| Highest offering of first institution      |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Doctorate-granting                         | 1.1                               | 1.2                | 1.0         | 68.0                               | 8.4                  | 20.3                   |
| Non-doctorate-granting                     | 0.4                               | 2.0                | 1.1         | 60.2                               | 13.9                 | 22.5                   |
| Degree program at first institution        |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Certificate                                | 0.0                               | 7.6                | 12.4        | 45.1                               | 18.1                 | 16.8                   |
| Associate's degree                         | 0.0                               | 15.7               | 2.0         | 19.9                               | 45.3                 | 17.1                   |
| Bachelor's degree                          | 0.7                               | 0.9                | 0.8         | 65.5                               | 10.1                 | 22.1                   |
| Degree goal at first institution           |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| None                                       | 0.0                               | 0.0                | 0.0         | 10.9                               | 28.1                 | 61.0                   |
| Certificate                                | —                                 | —                  | —           | —                                  | —                    | —                      |
| Associate's degree                         | 0.0                               | 16.6               | 1.4         | 29.7                               | 34.0                 | 18.4                   |
| Bachelor's degree                          | 0.8                               | 1.6                | 1.0         | 69.7                               | 9.2                  | 17.7                   |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained    |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| None                                       | †                                 | †                  | †           | 65.7                               | 12.5                 | 21.8                   |
| Certificate                                | 11.5                              | 2.1                | 60.8        | †                                  | †                    | 25.7                   |
| Associate's degree                         | †                                 | 82.5               | †           | 2.5                                | †                    | 15.1                   |
| Met high math/science curriculum           |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not meet threshold                     | 0.7                               | 1.5                | 0.3         | 62.2                               | 9.8                  | 25.5                   |
| Met curriculum threshold                   | 0.4                               | 1.0                | 0.9         | 73.1                               | 7.1                  | 17.7                   |
| Number of Advanced Placement tests taken   |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| None                                       | 1.0                               | 2.7                | 1.2         | 57.5                               | 14.1                 | 23.5                   |
| One  | 1.0                               | 0.5                | 2.4         | 72.2                               | 7.2                  | 16.8                   |
| More than one                              | 0.1                               | 0.2                | 0.4         | 81.3                               | 3.5                  | 14.6                   |
| Grade-point average in high school         |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| B or less                                  | 0.9                               | 2.9                | 0.2         | 47.3                               | 15.8                 | 32.9                   |
| B+ to A-                                   | 0.5                               | 1.0                | 1.8         | 66.0                               | 9.5                  | 21.3                   |
| Mostly As                                  | 0.9                               | 0.8                | 0.2         | 76.4                               | 4.4                  | 17.2                   |
| Derived SAT combined score                 |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Low quartile (400–700)                     | 1.5                               | 2.0                | 2.4         | 48.5                               | 16.5                 | 29.3                   |
| Middle quartiles (710–1020)                | 0.6                               | 1.8                | 0.6         | 61.4                               | 9.6                  | 26.0                   |
| High quartile (1030–1600)                  | 0.6                               | 0.5                | 0.3         | 75.6                               | 5.5                  | 17.4                   |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Postsecondary education.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.6b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by attendance patterns**

|  | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|  | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
| Private not-for-profit 4-year institutions |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Total                                      | 0.6                               | 1.7                | 1.1         | 62.9                               | 12.0                 | 21.7                   |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998     |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Less than 12 months                        | 0.0                               | 0.5                | 3.4         | 7.9                                | 79.2                 | 9.1                    |
| 12–24 months                               | 1.3                               | 4.3                | 1.9         | 26.7                               | 28.0                 | 37.8                   |
| 25 months or more                          | 0.6                               | 1.4                | 0.6         | 75.9                               | 1.6                  | 20.0                   |
| Intensity pattern through 1998             |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Always full-time                           | 0.8                               | 1.8                | 0.9         | 67.2                               | 11.1                 | 18.3                   |
| Mixed                                      | 0.2                               | 1.2                | 0.4         | 53.1                               | 8.2                  | 36.8                   |
| Always part-time                           | 0.0                               | 4.1                | 9.2         | 15.9                               | 58.9                 | 11.9                   |
| Academic year of last enrollment           |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| 1995–96                                    | 0.0                               | 0.7                | 3.5         | 0.0                                | 91.8                 | 4.1                    |
| 1996–97                                    | 2.5                               | 3.5                | 4.0         | 6.1                                | 49.9                 | 34.0                   |
| 1997–98                                    | 0.5                               | 1.6                | 0.6         | 73.1                               | 2.2                  | 22.0                   |
| Transfer status through 1998               |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not transfer                           | 0.8                               | 2.2                | 1.3         | 80.2                               | 15.4                 | †                      |
| Transferred                                | 0.0                               | 0.0                | 0.1         | 3.5                                | 0.0                  | 96.5                   |
| First transfer direction                   |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not transfer                           | 0.8                               | 2.2                | 1.3         | 80.2                               | 15.4                 | †                      |
| Downward transfer                          | 0.0                               | 0.0                | 0.0         | 5.7                                | 0.0                  | 94.3                   |
| Upward or lateral transfer                 | 0.0                               | 0.0                | 0.1         | 2.1                                | 0.0                  | 97.8                   |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998         |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Continuously enrolled                      | 0.7                               | 1.9                | 1.2         | 65.1                               | 13.3                 | 17.8                   |
| Not continuously enrolled                  | 0.0                               | 0.0                | 0.2         | 43.2                               | 0.0                  | 56.7                   |

\*Postsecondary education.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.6c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                      |                        |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|   | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE* | No degree, transferred |
| Private not-for-profit 4-year institutions      |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Total   | 0.6                               | 1.7                | 1.1         | 62.9                               | 12.0                 | 21.7                   |
| Gender  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Male  | 0.3                               | 1.7                | 1.6         | 61.6                               | 15.1                 | 19.8                   |
| Female  | 0.9                               | 1.7                | 0.6         | 64.0                               | 9.5                  | 23.3                   |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| 18 years or younger                             | 0.3                               | 1.4                | 0.5         | 67.7                               | 8.8                  | 21.3                   |
| 19 years  | 1.3                               | 2.1                | 0.0         | 55.4                               | 13.4                 | 27.9                   |
| 20–23 years                                     | 5.3                               | 0.0                | 4.7         | 30.0                               | 27.5                 | 32.5                   |
| 24–29 years                                     | 0.0                               | 17.1               | 7.8         | 43.4                               | 30.4                 | 1.4                    |
| 30 or older                                     | 0.0                               | 1.9                | 8.0         | 23.6                               | 56.6                 | 9.8                    |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 0.8                               | 2.0                | 0.6         | 64.3                               | 10.7                 | 21.5                   |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 0.0                               | 0.8                | 4.2         | 54.1                               | 14.5                 | 26.5                   |
| Hispanic  | 0.5                               | 1.0                | 1.7         | 59.1                               | 20.4                 | 17.3                   |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 0.0                               | 1.5                | 0.3         | 74.5                               | 7.1                  | 16.7                   |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | —                                 | —                  | —           | —                                  | —                    | —                      |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 0.6                               | 1.4                | 0.7         | 65.7                               | 9.1                  | 22.5                   |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 1.9                               | 8.9                | 4.3         | 41.3                               | 25.6                 | 18.1                   |
| Single with children                            | 0.0                               | 8.0                | 7.7         | 33.4                               | 41.1                 | 9.8                    |
| Married   | 0.0                               | 0.5                | 5.2         | 28.2                               | 54.5                 | 11.6                   |
| Parental education                              |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| High school diploma or less                     | 0.8                               | 1.8                | 1.2         | 53.7                               | 20.7                 | 21.7                   |
| Some postsecondary                              | 0.1                               | 2.8                | 1.7         | 58.3                               | 13.4                 | 23.8                   |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 0.7                               | 1.7                | 0.6         | 66.8                               | 7.6                  | 22.6                   |
| Advanced degree                                 | 0.9                               | 0.8                | 0.9         | 71.7                               | 7.3                  | 18.4                   |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 0.5                               | 2.1                | 1.7         | 66.6                               | 10.4                 | 18.6                   |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 1.1                               | 1.8                | 0.4         | 66.3                               | 9.2                  | 21.3                   |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 0.0                               | 2.2                | 4.7         | 39.6                               | 34.8                 | 18.7                   |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 0.5                               | 1.4                | 0.1         | 60.5                               | 12.1                 | 25.5                   |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 0.1                               | 1.5                | 1.7         | 62.1                               | 13.3                 | 21.4                   |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 1.2                               | 1.9                | 0.0         | 69.6                               | 7.5                  | 19.9                   |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 0.7                               | 1.0                | 0.9         | 68.1                               | 5.9                  | 23.4                   |
| Independent student income in 1994              |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                      |                        |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 0.0                               | 1.2                | 1.1         | 41.5                               | 37.7                 | 18.5                   |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 3.7                               | 18.2               | 3.0         | 30.9                               | 36.3                 | 7.8                    |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | —                                 | —                  | —           | —                                  | —                    | —                      |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 0.0                               | 0.0                | 18.4        | 23.0                               | 47.0                 | 11.7                   |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Postsecondary education.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 3.6d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions according to the highest degree attained and 3-year retention and transfer status at first institution attended, as of spring 1998, by retention risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Attained at the first institution |                    |             | Retention at the first institution |                                  |                        |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
|  | Bachelor's degree                 | Associate's degree | Certificate | No degree, still enrolled          | No degree, left PSE <sup>1</sup> | No degree, transferred |
| Private not-for-profit 4-year institutions |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Total                                      | 0.6                               | 1.7                | 1.1         | 62.9                               | 12.0                             | 21.7                   |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| None                                       | 0.6                               | 1.3                | 0.6         | 68.0                               | 8.0                              | 21.6                   |
| One  | 1.1                               | 2.1                | 1.6         | 53.7                               | 12.9                             | 28.6                   |
| Two or three                               | 1.0                               | 4.6                | 2.0         | 41.1                               | 32.4                             | 18.9                   |
| Four or more                               | 0.0                               | 4.4                | 8.5         | 28.7                               | 49.6                             | 8.9                    |
| High school diploma or equivalency status  |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| High school diploma                        | 0.7                               | 1.7                | 1.0         | 63.3                               | 11.5                             | 21.9                   |
| GED/high school equivalent <sup>2</sup>    | 0.0                               | 2.1                | 3.6         | 50.3                               | 28.0                             | 16.0                   |
| None <sup>2</sup>                          | —                                 | —                  | —           | —                                  | —                                | —                      |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment           |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Did not delay                              | 0.2                               | 1.3                | 0.3         | 67.8                               | 8.8                              | 21.5                   |
| Delayed <sup>2</sup>                       | 2.7                               | 3.7                | 4.7         | 39.5                               | 26.5                             | 23.0                   |
| Attendance status when first enrolled      |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Full-time                                  | 0.7                               | 1.7                | 0.8         | 64.9                               | 10.1                             | 21.8                   |
| Part-time <sup>2</sup>                     | 0.0                               | 1.8                | 3.9         | 40.1                               | 33.8                             | 20.5                   |
| Dependency status when first enrolled      |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Dependent                                  | 0.6                               | 1.4                | 0.7         | 65.7                               | 9.1                              | 22.5                   |
| Independent <sup>2</sup>                   | 0.8                               | 5.5                | 5.4         | 34.6                               | 40.0                             | 13.8                   |
| Number of children when first enrolled     |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| None                                       | 0.7                               | 1.6                | 0.9         | 64.6                               | 10.2                             | 22.0                   |
| One or more <sup>2</sup>                   | 0.0                               | 4.4                | 6.4         | 22.9                               | 50.2                             | 16.1                   |
| Single parent status when first enrolled   |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Not a single parent                        | 0.7                               | 1.6                | 0.9         | 63.8                               | 11.0                             | 22.0                   |
| Single parent <sup>2</sup>                 | 0.0                               | 8.0                | 7.7         | 33.4                               | 41.1                             | 9.8                    |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96              |                                   |                    |             |                                    |                                  |                        |
| Did not work                               | 0.5                               | 2.1                | 1.7         | 66.6                               | 10.4                             | 18.6                   |
| Worked part time                           | 0.8                               | 2.0                | 0.6         | 67.0                               | 8.9                              | 20.8                   |
| Worked full time <sup>2</sup>              | 1.7                               | 1.0                | 3.1         | 43.2                               | 30.0                             | 21.0                   |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

<sup>1</sup>Postsecondary education.

<sup>2</sup>Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.0a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by first institution type and first degree program**

|  | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|--|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Total                                      | 17.1   | 10.0                               | 5.2                                | 51.9                                  | 15.9                       |
| Type of first institution                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 4-year                                     |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Public                                     | 7.3  | 7.5                                | 4.1                                | 77.3                                  | 3.9                        |
| Private, not-for-profit                    | 6.4  | 6.8                                | 4.0                                | 78.5                                  | 4.3                        |
| Private, for-profit                        | 17.4   | 14.0                               | 2.2                                | 41.3                                  | 25.2                       |
| 2-year                                     |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Public                                     | 23.9   | 13.0                               | 6.8                                | 41.2                                  | 15.2                       |
| Private, not-for-profit                    | 15.3   | 12.7                               | 6.8                                | 21.2                                  | 44.1                       |
| Private, for-profit                        | 23.5   | 8.8                                | 4.1                                | 14.6                                  | 49.1                       |
| Less-than-2-year                           |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Public                                     | 29.0   | 11.1                               | 2.8                                | 7.0                                   | 50.1                       |
| Private, for-profit                        | 25.4   | 5.6                                | 2.9                                | 5.7                                   | 60.3                       |
| Level of first institution                 |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 4-year                                     | 7.1  | 7.3                                | 4.0                                | 77.3                                  | 4.3                        |
| 2-year                                     | 23.7   | 12.7                               | 6.6                                | 38.9                                  | 18.1                       |
| Less-than-2-year                           | 26.3   | 6.8                                | 2.9                                | 6.1                                   | 57.9                       |
| Control of first institution               |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Public                                     | 18.1   | 11.0                               | 5.7                                | 53.2                                  | 12.0                       |
| Private, not-for-profit                    | 7.2  | 7.2                                | 4.1                                | 74.8                                  | 6.7                        |
| Private, for-profit                        | 24.4   | 7.0                                | 3.3                                | 10.1                                  | 55.1                       |
| Degree program at first institution        |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Certificate                                | 27.3   | 8.6                                | 5.5                                | 13.8                                  | 44.9                       |
| Associate's degree                         | 22.5   | 13.5                               | 6.2                                | 43.4                                  | 14.4                       |
| Bachelor's degree                          | 5.9  | 6.6                                | 4.0                                | 80.5                                  | 3.0                        |
| Degree goal at first institution           |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None                                       | 39.9   | 12.5                               | 5.7                                | 29.9                                  | 11.9                       |
| Certificate                                | 26.7   | 7.4                                | 2.3                                | 9.9                                   | 53.7                       |
| Associate's degree                         | 17.9   | 15.4                               | 7.9                                | 38.1                                  | 20.7                       |
| Bachelor's degree or<br>transfer to 4-year | 7.8  | 7.4                                | 4.2                                | 75.7                                  | 4.9                        |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained    |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None                                       | 20.3   | 11.8                               | 6.2                                | 61.6                                  | †                          |
| Certificate                                | †  | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 100.0                      |
| Associate's degree                         | †  | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 100.0                      |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.0b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by attendance patterns**

|  | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                              |                              |                                 | Attained by spring 1998 |
|--|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
|  | No degree, last year 1995–96                   | No degree, last year 1996–97 | No degree, last year 1997–98 | No degree, enrolled spring 1998 |                         |
| Total                                  | 17.1   | 10.0                         | 5.2                          | 51.9                            | 15.9                    |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998 |  |                              |                              |                                 |                         |
| Less than 12 months                    | 63.6   | 11.1                         | 1.9                          | 4.0                             | 19.5                    |
| 12–24 months                           | 0.5  | 29.1                         | 13.4                         | 32.4                            | 24.6                    |
| 25 months or more                      | †  | †                            | 3.0                          | 87.3                            | 9.7                     |
| Intensity pattern through 1998         |  |                              |                              |                                 |                         |
| Always full-time                       | 13.7   | 8.3                          | 3.3                          | 56.4                            | 18.4                    |
| Mixed                                  | 7.3  | 11.3                         | 8.1                          | 59.7                            | 13.6                    |
| Always part-time                       | 49.6   | 13.7                         | 6.6                          | 19.1                            | 11.0                    |
| Academic year of last enrollment       |  |                              |                              |                                 |                         |
| 1995–96                                | 84.5   | †                            | †                            | †                               | 15.5                    |
| 1996–97                                | †  | 63.7                         | †                            | †                               | 36.4                    |
| 1997–98                                | †  | †                            | 8.1                          | 80.9                            | 11.0                    |
| Transfer status through 1998           |  |                              |                              |                                 |                         |
| Did not transfer                       | 21.5   | 10.7                         | 4.9                          | 47.7                            | 15.2                    |
| Transferred                            | 1.2  | 7.3                          | 6.3                          | 66.9                            | 18.3                    |
| First transfer direction               |  |                              |                              |                                 |                         |
| Did not transfer                       | 21.5   | 10.7                         | 4.9                          | 47.7                            | 15.2                    |
| Downward transfer                      | 0.5  | 13.8                         | 10.2                         | 60.0                            | 15.6                    |
| Upward or lateral transfer             | 1.4  | 5.6                          | 5.2                          | 68.8                            | 19.0                    |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998     |  |                              |                              |                                 |                         |
| Continuously enrolled                  | 20.4   | 9.7                          | 3.4                          | 49.9                            | 16.7                    |
| Not continuously enrolled              | 0.1  | 11.4                         | 14.8                         | 61.9                            | 11.8                    |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.0c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Total   | 17.1   | 10.0                               | 5.2                                | 51.9                                  | 15.9                       |
| Gender  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Male  | 18.0   | 9.6                                | 4.7                                | 53.6                                  | 14.1                       |
| Female  | 16.5   | 10.3                               | 5.6                                | 50.4                                  | 17.2                       |
| Age when first enrolled                         |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 18 years or younger                             | 10.0   | 8.6                                | 4.9                                | 66.0                                  | 10.5                       |
| 19 years  | 18.3   | 9.4                                | 4.2                                | 54.4                                  | 13.7                       |
| 20–23 years                                     | 22.8   | 11.8                               | 11.0                               | 30.1                                  | 24.4                       |
| 24–29 years                                     | 32.4   | 12.6                               | 2.2                                | 20.1                                  | 32.8                       |
| 30 or older                                     | 36.4   | 13.5                               | 4.9                                | 19.0                                  | 26.2                       |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 16.9   | 10.0                               | 4.6                                | 52.9                                  | 15.6                       |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 23.3   | 10.7                               | 6.7                                | 39.8                                  | 19.6                       |
| Hispanic  | 16.2   | 8.8                                | 6.5                                | 51.1                                  | 17.3                       |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 10.4   | 12.3                               | 5.4                                | 63.6                                  | 8.4                        |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 21.2   | 4.4                                | 17.6                               | 48.9                                  | 8.0                        |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 11.4   | 8.8                                | 4.7                                | 63.4                                  | 11.7                       |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 30.2   | 15.6                               | 5.0                                | 25.6                                  | 23.6                       |
| Single with children                            | 27.1   | 8.2                                | 11.4                               | 22.6                                  | 30.7                       |
| Married   | 35.5   | 14.9                               | 4.0                                | 18.5                                  | 27.1                       |
| Parental education                              |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| High school diploma or less                     | 20.7   | 12.4                               | 6.0                                | 39.8                                  | 21.2                       |
| Some postsecondary                              | 19.0   | 10.1                               | 5.8                                | 50.5                                  | 14.7                       |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 11.1   | 7.8                                | 5.6                                | 63.3                                  | 12.2                       |
| Advanced degree                                 | 7.5  | 6.8                                | 2.7                                | 78.3                                  | 4.7                        |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 13.5   | 9.3                                | 3.9                                | 54.7                                  | 18.6                       |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 11.4   | 11.0                               | 5.0                                | 58.9                                  | 13.7                       |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 34.9   | 10.3                               | 8.7                                | 26.4                                  | 19.8                       |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 15.1   | 9.9                                | 4.8                                | 54.6                                  | 15.6                       |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 10.7   | 9.9                                | 6.4                                | 60.5                                  | 12.6                       |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 14.1   | 8.8                                | 4.2                                | 62.4                                  | 10.4                       |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 5.4  | 6.6                                | 3.4                                | 76.8                                  | 7.9                        |
| Independent student income in 1994              |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 32.1   | 10.5                               | 8.4                                | 22.8                                  | 26.2                       |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 34.0   | 9.3                                | 4.5                                | 23.6                                  | 28.7                       |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 27.5   | 11.7                               | 7.9                                | 19.9                                  | 33.1                       |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 38.4   | 15.3                               | 6.1                                | 20.0                                  | 20.2                       |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.0d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|--|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Total                                      | 17.1   | 10.0                               | 5.2                                | 51.9                                  | 15.9                       |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None                                       | 6.2  | 6.0                                | 4.2                                | 72.8                                  | 10.8                       |
| One  | 17.1   | 10.9                               | 4.2                                | 53.6                                  | 14.2                       |
| Two or three                               | 27.8   | 13.6                               | 7.4                                | 29.5                                  | 21.7                       |
| Four or more                               | 33.4   | 13.5                               | 7.2                                | 20.7                                  | 25.3                       |
| High school diploma or equivalency status  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| High school diploma                        | 16.2   | 9.8                                | 5.0                                | 54.8                                  | 14.3                       |
| GED/high school equivalent*                | 22.2   | 11.2                               | 8.2                                | 28.7                                  | 29.7                       |
| None*                                      | 36.8   | 13.6                               | 4.5                                | 14.6                                  | 30.5                       |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment           |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not delay                              | 9.9  | 8.4                                | 4.8                                | 66.4                                  | 10.5                       |
| Delayed*                                   | 28.1   | 12.4                               | 5.9                                | 29.7                                  | 24.0                       |
| Attendance status when first enrolled      |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Full-time                                  | 12.3   | 9.2                                | 5.0                                | 56.6                                  | 16.9                       |
| Part-time*                                 | 29.7   | 11.6                               | 5.7                                | 39.7                                  | 13.3                       |
| Dependency status when first enrolled      |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Dependent                                  | 11.4   | 8.8                                | 4.7                                | 63.4                                  | 11.7                       |
| Independent*                               | 32.2   | 12.2                               | 7.0                                | 20.8                                  | 27.8                       |
| Number of children when first enrolled     |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None                                       | 14.2   | 9.5                                | 4.7                                | 58.0                                  | 13.6                       |
| One or more*                               | 30.7   | 12.1                               | 8.3                                | 20.6                                  | 28.3                       |
| Single parent status when first enrolled   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Not a single parent                        | 15.7   | 10.1                               | 4.7                                | 55.2                                  | 14.4                       |
| Single parent*                             | 27.1   | 8.2                                | 11.4                               | 22.6                                  | 30.7                       |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96              |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not work                               | 13.5   | 9.3                                | 3.9                                | 54.7                                  | 18.6                       |
| Worked part time                           | 12.0   | 8.4                                | 5.0                                | 58.8                                  | 15.8                       |
| Worked full time*                          | 30.5   | 14.7                               | 7.6                                | 30.7                                  | 16.5                       |

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.1a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in less-than-4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by first institution type and first degree program**

|   | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in less-than-4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total   | 24.1   | 11.8                               | 6.0                                | 34.1                                  | 24.0                       |
| Type of first institution                           |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 2-year  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Public  | 23.9   | 13.0                               | 6.8                                | 41.2                                  | 15.2                       |
| Private, not-for-profit                             | 15.3   | 12.7                               | 6.8                                | 21.2                                  | 44.1                       |
| Private, for-profit                                 | 23.5   | 8.8                                | 4.1                                | 14.6                                  | 49.1                       |
| Less-than-2-year                                    |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Public  | 29.0   | 11.1                               | 2.8                                | 7.0                                   | 50.1                       |
| Private, for-profit                                 | 25.4   | 5.6                                | 2.9                                | 5.7                                   | 60.3                       |
| Level of first institution                          |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 2-year  | 23.7   | 12.7                               | 6.6                                | 38.9                                  | 18.1                       |
| Less-than-2-year                                    | 26.3   | 6.8                                | 2.9                                | 6.1                                   | 57.9                       |
| Control of first institution                        |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Public  | 24.1   | 12.9                               | 6.6                                | 40.0                                  | 16.4                       |
| Private, not-for-profit                             | 18.5   | 13.0                               | 6.0                                | 20.1                                  | 42.3                       |
| Private, for-profit                                 | 24.7   | 6.7                                | 3.3                                | 8.8                                   | 56.4                       |
| Degree program at first institution                 |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Certificate   | 27.9   | 8.5                                | 5.5                                | 12.0                                  | 46.1                       |
| Associate's degree                                  | 22.4   | 13.3                               | 6.3                                | 44.0                                  | 14.1                       |
| Degree goal at first institution                    |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None  | 42.5   | 11.9                               | 5.1                                | 26.6                                  | 14.0                       |
| Certificate   | 27.3   | 6.9                                | 4.8                                | 8.2                                   | 52.8                       |
| Associate's degree                                  | 19.3   | 15.3                               | 7.9                                | 37.1                                  | 20.5                       |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year             | 16.5   | 9.9                                | 5.4                                | 60.2                                  | 8.1                        |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained             |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None  | 31.7   | 15.5                               | 7.9                                | 44.8                                  | †                          |
| Certificate   | †  | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 100.0                      |
| Associate's degree                                  | †  | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 100.0                      |
| Transfer or degree expectation                      |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| No degree, no transfer                              | 48.0   | 10.8                               | 5.0                                | 23.5                                  | 12.7                       |
| Degree, no transfer                                 | 24.0   | 12.7                               | 6.0                                | 21.3                                  | 36.1                       |
| Degree, transfer                                    | 16.5   | 12.0                               | 6.9                                | 46.6                                  | 18.0                       |
| No degree, transfer                                 | 18.1   | 9.4                                | 7.1                                | 56.7                                  | 8.8                        |
| Program/field at first institution                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Vocational certificate                              | 27.9   | 8.5                                | 5.5                                | 12.0                                  | 46.1                       |
| Associate's applied fields                          | 22.0   | 14.1                               | 6.2                                | 38.2                                  | 19.5                       |
| Associate's liberal arts/uncertain                  | 22.9   | 12.5                               | 6.3                                | 49.7                                  | 8.7                        |
| Purpose for enrolling                               |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Job skills  | 32.2   | 10.3                               | 4.9                                | 15.4                                  | 37.2                       |
| Degree or certificate                               | 17.6   | 21.7                               | 5.5                                | 31.6                                  | 23.7                       |
| Transfer to 4-year                                  | 12.4   | 8.9                                | 7.9                                | 56.1                                  | 14.7                       |
| Other   | 33.7   | 13.1                               | 6.6                                | 26.1                                  | 20.6                       |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.1b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in less-than-4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by attendance patterns**

|  | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere      |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|--|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96                  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
|  | Students who began in less-than-4-year institutions |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total                                  | 24.1  | 11.8                               | 6.0                                | 34.1                                  | 24.0                       |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998 |   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than 12 months                    | 62.0  | 10.4                               | 1.6                                | 3.8                                   | 22.3                       |
| 12–24 months                           | 0.7   | 26.3                               | 13.8                               | 29.7                                  | 29.6                       |
| 25 months or more                      | †   | †                                  | 4.2                                | 75.1                                  | 20.7                       |
| Intensity pattern through 1998         |   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Always full-time                       | 23.0  | 10.4                               | 3.3                                | 26.7                                  | 36.6                       |
| Mixed                                  | 9.0   | 12.3                               | 8.9                                | 52.6                                  | 17.2                       |
| Always part-time                       | 49.9  | 13.8                               | 6.5                                | 18.5                                  | 11.5                       |
| Academic year of last enrollment       |   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 1995–96                                | 82.3  | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 17.7                       |
| 1996–97                                | †   | 57.6                               | †                                  | †                                     | 42.4                       |
| 1997–98                                | †   | †                                  | 12.0                               | 67.9                                  | 20.1                       |
| Transfer status through 1998           |   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not transfer                       | 30.5  | 13.4                               | 6.1                                | 26.9                                  | 23.1                       |
| Transferred                            | 1.7   | 6.3                                | 5.7                                | 59.4                                  | 26.9                       |
| First transfer direction               |   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not transfer                       | 30.5  | 13.4                               | 6.1                                | 26.9                                  | 23.1                       |
| Downward transfer                      | 1.3   | 12.7                               | 12.6                               | 29.2                                  | 44.2                       |
| Upward or lateral transfer             | 1.7   | 5.9                                | 5.2                                | 61.5                                  | 25.7                       |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998     |   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Continuously enrolled                  | 29.7  | 12.0                               | 3.5                                | 28.9                                  | 26.0                       |
| Not continuously enrolled              | 0.1   | 11.0                               | 17.0                               | 56.4                                  | 15.4                       |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.1c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in less-than-4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in less-than-4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total   | 24.1   | 11.8                               | 6.0                                | 34.1                                  | 24.0                       |
| Gender  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Male  | 24.4   | 10.8                               | 5.6                                | 38.4                                  | 20.8                       |
| Female  | 23.9   | 12.7                               | 6.4                                | 30.6                                  | 26.4                       |
| Age when first enrolled                             |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 18 years or younger                                 | 16.8   | 11.6                               | 6.1                                | 45.3                                  | 20.3                       |
| 19 years  | 23.4   | 9.9                                | 4.2                                | 44.9                                  | 17.7                       |
| 20–23 years   | 24.4   | 10.6                               | 12.4                               | 25.5                                  | 27.2                       |
| 24–29 years   | 33.8   | 12.7                               | 1.8                                | 16.7                                  | 35.0                       |
| 30 or older   | 36.2   | 13.9                               | 5.1                                | 16.4                                  | 28.3                       |
| Race/ethnicity                                      |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| White, non-Hispanic                                 | 24.0   | 12.0                               | 5.2                                | 34.6                                  | 24.3                       |
| Black, non-Hispanic                                 | 31.9   | 9.9                                | 7.1                                | 23.6                                  | 27.5                       |
| Hispanic  | 19.9   | 10.5                               | 8.4                                | 38.4                                  | 22.9                       |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                              | 19.4   | 23.8                               | 3.5                                | 37.9                                  | 15.3                       |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                      | 28.9   | 3.8                                | 23.5                               | 34.7                                  | 9.1                        |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled     |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Single, no children (dependent)                     | 18.0   | 11.2                               | 5.5                                | 45.0                                  | 20.3                       |
| Single, no children (independent)                   | 34.3   | 16.7                               | 5.5                                | 16.7                                  | 26.9                       |
| Single with children                                | 27.8   | 7.4                                | 11.8                               | 20.4                                  | 32.7                       |
| Married   | 35.1   | 15.5                               | 3.9                                | 15.7                                  | 29.9                       |
| Parental education                                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| High school diploma or less                         | 24.8   | 12.6                               | 6.4                                | 28.8                                  | 27.4                       |
| Some postsecondary                                  | 25.0   | 10.2                               | 6.5                                | 38.2                                  | 20.1                       |
| Bachelor's degree                                   | 17.9   | 10.4                               | 7.0                                | 43.4                                  | 21.3                       |
| Advanced degree                                     | 19.6   | 17.5                               | 2.5                                | 49.1                                  | 11.4                       |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                       |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not work while enrolled                         | 23.1   | 12.9                               | 4.5                                | 26.3                                  | 33.3                       |
| Student working to meet expenses                    | 16.2   | 13.3                               | 5.9                                | 43.6                                  | 21.0                       |
| Employee who is enrolled                            | 36.7   | 10.3                               | 8.7                                | 22.1                                  | 22.2                       |
| Dependent family income in 1994                     |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than \$25,000                                  | 20.3   | 11.1                               | 5.1                                | 40.6                                  | 23.0                       |
| \$25,000–44,999                                     | 13.6   | 11.7                               | 7.4                                | 47.5                                  | 19.7                       |
| \$45,000–69,999                                     | 25.8   | 10.4                               | 6.2                                | 39.2                                  | 18.4                       |
| \$70,000 or greater                                 | 9.4  | 11.7                               | 2.4                                | 57.9                                  | 18.6                       |
| Independent student income in 1994                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than \$6,000                                   | 34.1   | 9.2                                | 8.7                                | 18.6                                  | 29.4                       |
| \$6,000–14,999                                      | 35.8   | 8.9                                | 4.3                                | 20.1                                  | 30.8                       |
| \$15,000–24,999                                     | 28.1   | 12.0                               | 7.9                                | 16.0                                  | 36.0                       |
| \$25,000 or greater                                 | 38.1   | 16.2                               | 6.9                                | 17.2                                  | 21.6                       |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.1d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in less-than-4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere      |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|--|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96                  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
|  | Students who began in less-than-4-year institutions |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total                                      | 24.1  | 11.8                               | 6.0                                | 34.1                                  | 24.0                       |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None                                       | 11.4  | 7.3                                | 5.3                                | 47.6                                  | 28.5                       |
| One  | 20.5  | 11.3                               | 3.9                                | 47.0                                  | 17.4                       |
| Two or three                               | 28.8  | 13.9                               | 8.0                                | 25.6                                  | 23.7                       |
| Four or more                               | 33.9  | 13.0                               | 7.2                                | 18.6                                  | 27.3                       |
| High school diploma or equivalency status  |   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| High school diploma                        | 23.5  | 11.9                               | 5.8                                | 36.3                                  | 22.4                       |
| GED/high school equivalent*                | 23.5  | 10.4                               | 8.3                                | 25.8                                  | 32.0                       |
| None*                                      | 37.4  | 13.8                               | 4.7                                | 12.5                                  | 31.6                       |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment           |   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not delay                              | 16.2  | 10.9                               | 5.8                                | 47.5                                  | 19.6                       |
| Delayed*                                   | 31.0  | 12.5                               | 6.3                                | 22.6                                  | 27.6                       |
| Attendance status when first enrolled      |   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Full-time                                  | 19.4  | 11.8                               | 6.1                                | 32.4                                  | 30.5                       |
| Part-time*                                 | 31.4  | 11.6                               | 5.9                                | 36.8                                  | 14.4                       |
| Dependency status when first enrolled      |   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Dependent                                  | 18.0  | 11.2                               | 5.5                                | 45.0                                  | 20.3                       |
| Independent*                               | 33.3  | 12.1                               | 7.3                                | 16.9                                  | 30.5                       |
| Number of children when first enrolled     |   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None                                       | 21.5  | 12.0                               | 5.5                                | 38.9                                  | 22.2                       |
| One or more*                               | 31.1  | 11.6                               | 8.4                                | 18.3                                  | 30.7                       |
| Single parent status when first enrolled   |   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Not a single parent                        | 23.1  | 12.7                               | 5.2                                | 36.2                                  | 22.8                       |
| Single parent*                             | 27.8  | 7.4                                | 11.8                               | 20.4                                  | 32.7                       |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96              |   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not work                               | 23.1  | 12.9                               | 4.5                                | 26.3                                  | 33.3                       |
| Worked part time                           | 17.1  | 9.4                                | 5.7                                | 42.8                                  | 25.0                       |
| Worked full time*                          | 33.2  | 14.9                               | 8.1                                | 25.0                                  | 18.9                       |

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.2a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public less-than-4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by first institution type and first degree program**

|  | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|--|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in public less-than-4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total  | 24.1   | 12.9                               | 6.6                                | 40.0                                  | 16.4                       |
| Level of first institution                                 |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 2-year   | 23.9   | 13.0                               | 6.8                                | 41.2                                  | 15.2                       |
| Less-than-2-year   | 29.0   | 11.1                               | 2.8                                | 7.0                                   | 50.1                       |
| Degree program at first institution                        |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Certificate  | 30.0   | 10.8                               | 7.9                                | 17.3                                  | 34.1                       |
| Associate's degree   | 22.6   | 13.5                               | 6.3                                | 45.8                                  | 11.9                       |
| Degree goal at first institution                           |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None   | 44.9   | 10.6                               | 5.7                                | 30.8                                  | 8.0                        |
| Certificate  | 30.0   | 9.0                                | 6.7                                | 11.1                                  | 43.2                       |
| Associate's degree   | 19.6   | 16.1                               | 8.0                                | 39.5                                  | 16.9                       |
| Bachelor's degree or<br>transfer to 4-year                 | 16.6   | 9.7                                | 5.5                                | 60.9                                  | 7.3                        |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained                    |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None   | 28.8   | 15.5                               | 7.9                                | 47.8                                  | †                          |
| Certificate  | †  | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 100.0                      |
| Associate's degree   | †  | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 100.0                      |
| Transfer or degree expectation                             |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| No degree, no transfer                                     | 52.1   | 9.8                                | 5.8                                | 27.3                                  | 5.2                        |
| Degree, no transfer  | 24.2   | 15.7                               | 6.9                                | 27.5                                  | 25.7                       |
| Degree, transfer   | 16.5   | 12.2                               | 7.0                                | 47.4                                  | 16.9                       |
| No degree, transfer  | 18.2   | 9.0                                | 7.3                                | 57.5                                  | 8.0                        |
| Program/field at first institution                         |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Vocational certificate                                     | 30.0   | 10.8                               | 7.9                                | 17.3                                  | 34.1                       |
| Associate's applied fields                                 | 22.2   | 14.7                               | 6.3                                | 41.1                                  | 15.8                       |
| Associate's liberal arts/uncertain                         | 22.9   | 12.4                               | 6.3                                | 49.8                                  | 8.6                        |
| Purpose for enrolling                                      |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Job skills   | 38.1   | 11.8                               | 6.4                                | 20.8                                  | 22.9                       |
| Degree or certificate                                      | 16.2   | 24.6                               | 5.5                                | 36.1                                  | 17.7                       |
| Transfer to 4-year   | 12.4   | 8.9                                | 8.0                                | 56.6                                  | 14.1                       |
| Other  | 34.6   | 13.7                               | 7.3                                | 28.8                                  | 15.6                       |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.2b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public less-than-4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by attendance patterns**

|  | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|--|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in public less-than-4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total  | 24.1   | 12.9                               | 6.6                                | 40.0                                  | 16.4                       |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998                     |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than 12 months  | 69.0   | 11.7                               | 2.1                                | 4.1                                   | 13.1                       |
| 12–24 months   | 0.7  | 31.1                               | 15.4                               | 34.9                                  | 17.9                       |
| 25 months or more  | 0.0  | 0.0                                | 4.1                                | 77.5                                  | 18.4                       |
| Intensity pattern through 1998                             |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Always full-time   | 20.6   | 12.5                               | 3.3                                | 36.7                                  | 26.9                       |
| Mixed  | 9.5  | 12.6                               | 9.3                                | 55.7                                  | 12.9                       |
| Always part-time   | 51.4   | 13.9                               | 6.7                                | 19.7                                  | 8.3                        |
| Academic year of last enrollment                           |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 1995–96  | 88.0   | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 12.0                       |
| 1996–97  | †  | 74.8                               | †                                  | †                                     | 25.2                       |
| 1997–98  | †  | †                                  | 12.0                               | 72.2                                  | 15.8                       |
| Transfer status through 1998                               |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not transfer   | 31.3   | 15.0                               | 6.8                                | 32.7                                  | 14.2                       |
| Transferred  | 1.9  | 6.4                                | 6.0                                | 62.5                                  | 23.2                       |
| First transfer direction                                   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not transfer   | 31.3   | 15.0                               | 6.8                                | 32.7                                  | 14.2                       |
| Downward transfer  | —  | —                                  | —                                  | —                                     | —                          |
| Upward or lateral transfer                                 | 1.9  | 5.9                                | 5.4                                | 64.9                                  | 22.0                       |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998                         |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Continuously enrolled                                      | 30.0   | 13.2                               | 3.8                                | 35.0                                  | 18.0                       |
| Not continuously enrolled                                  | 0.0  | 11.7                               | 17.9                               | 60.4                                  | 10.0                       |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.2c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public less-than-4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by demographic characteristics**

|  | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|--|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in public less-than-4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total  | 24.1   | 12.9                               | 6.6                                | 40.0                                  | 16.4                       |
| Gender   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Male   | 23.9   | 11.3                               | 6.2                                | 43.2                                  | 15.5                       |
| Female   | 24.3   | 14.5                               | 7.0                                | 37.0                                  | 17.3                       |
| Age when first enrolled                                    |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 18 years or younger  | 15.8   | 12.2                               | 6.4                                | 48.6                                  | 17.0                       |
| 19 years   | 24.5   | 10.1                               | 4.6                                | 51.6                                  | 9.2                        |
| 20–23 years  | 25.6   | 12.8                               | 15.5                               | 33.7                                  | 12.4                       |
| 24–29 years  | 36.5   | 13.9                               | 1.2                                | 20.8                                  | 27.6                       |
| 30 or older  | 39.0   | 16.4                               | 6.6                                | 21.4                                  | 16.7                       |
| Race/ethnicity   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| White, non-Hispanic  | 24.0   | 12.8                               | 5.7                                | 39.2                                  | 18.2                       |
| Black, non-Hispanic  | 33.2   | 10.9                               | 8.1                                | 28.8                                  | 19.0                       |
| Hispanic   | 19.6   | 12.0                               | 10.5                               | 48.7                                  | 9.3                        |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                                     | 16.7   | 28.0                               | 3.9                                | 47.1                                  | 4.4                        |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                             | —  | —                                  | —                                  | —                                     | —                          |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled            |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Single, no children (dependent)                            | 17.9   | 11.7                               | 6.0                                | 49.2                                  | 15.2                       |
| Single, no children (independent)                          | 41.2   | 20.2                               | 6.5                                | 20.2                                  | 11.9                       |
| Single with children                                       | 27.3   | 7.8                                | 14.2                               | 29.3                                  | 21.3                       |
| Married  | 34.8   | 18.2                               | 4.7                                | 18.9                                  | 23.5                       |
| Parental education   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| High school diploma or less                                | 25.3   | 14.2                               | 7.4                                | 35.1                                  | 18.0                       |
| Some postsecondary   | 26.0   | 11.1                               | 6.0                                | 43.4                                  | 13.4                       |
| Bachelor's degree  | 16.7   | 10.9                               | 7.8                                | 46.9                                  | 17.7                       |
| Advanced degree  | 20.1   | 18.1                               | 2.2                                | 51.5                                  | 8.1                        |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                              |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not work while enrolled                                | 23.2   | 14.2                               | 5.2                                | 36.5                                  | 20.9                       |
| Student working to meet expenses                           | 16.0   | 14.5                               | 6.4                                | 48.1                                  | 15.0                       |
| Employee who is enrolled                                   | 37.3   | 10.9                               | 9.4                                | 24.2                                  | 18.1                       |
| Dependent family income in 1994                            |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than \$25,000   | 20.0   | 12.0                               | 5.4                                | 46.4                                  | 16.2                       |
| \$25,000–44,999  | 13.4   | 12.4                               | 8.3                                | 52.5                                  | 13.4                       |
| \$45,000–69,999  | 26.4   | 10.4                               | 6.4                                | 41.0                                  | 15.9                       |
| \$70,000 or greater  | 9.2  | 12.1                               | 2.6                                | 60.8                                  | 15.3                       |
| Independent student income in 1994                         |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than \$6,000  | 37.2   | 11.4                               | 9.3                                | 27.6                                  | 14.5                       |
| \$6,000–14,999   | 40.9   | 9.2                                | 4.8                                | 25.8                                  | 19.3                       |
| \$15,000–24,999  | 28.8   | 12.2                               | 9.2                                | 18.2                                  | 31.6                       |
| \$25,000 or greater  | 39.7   | 20.0                               | 8.5                                | 21.6                                  | 10.3                       |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.2d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public less-than-4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|--|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in public less-than-4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total  | 24.1   | 12.9                               | 6.6                                | 40.0                                  | 16.4                       |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled                 |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None   | 10.6   | 7.2                                | 5.5                                | 52.1                                  | 24.7                       |
| One  | 20.0   | 12.4                               | 4.2                                | 53.9                                  | 9.5                        |
| Two or three   | 29.6   | 15.9                               | 9.7                                | 30.5                                  | 14.3                       |
| Four or more   | 35.8   | 14.6                               | 7.6                                | 23.1                                  | 19.0                       |
| High school diploma or equivalency status                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| High school diploma  | 23.8   | 12.8                               | 6.4                                | 41.4                                  | 15.6                       |
| GED/high school equivalent*                                | 22.7   | 11.9                               | 8.9                                | 33.8                                  | 22.7                       |
| None*  | 34.6   | 18.3                               | 6.6                                | 19.7                                  | 20.8                       |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment                           |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not delay  | 15.8   | 11.3                               | 6.0                                | 51.3                                  | 15.6                       |
| Delayed*   | 33.1   | 14.5                               | 7.3                                | 28.2                                  | 17.0                       |
| Attendance status when first enrolled                      |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Full-time  | 17.3   | 13.8                               | 7.0                                | 41.0                                  | 20.9                       |
| Part-time*   | 32.1   | 11.7                               | 6.0                                | 38.9                                  | 11.3                       |
| Dependency status when first enrolled                      |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Dependent  | 17.9   | 11.7                               | 6.0                                | 49.2                                  | 15.2                       |
| Independent*   | 35.4   | 14.2                               | 8.5                                | 21.6                                  | 20.3                       |
| Number of children when first enrolled                     |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None   | 21.6   | 12.9                               | 6.0                                | 43.9                                  | 15.6                       |
| One or more*   | 31.4   | 13.5                               | 9.7                                | 24.3                                  | 21.1                       |
| Single parent status when first enrolled                   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Not a single parent  | 23.1   | 13.7                               | 5.8                                | 41.3                                  | 16.2                       |
| Single parent*   | 27.3   | 7.8                                | 14.2                               | 29.3                                  | 21.3                       |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96                              |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not work   | 23.2   | 14.2                               | 5.2                                | 36.5                                  | 20.9                       |
| Worked part time   | 16.6   | 10.2                               | 6.1                                | 48.0                                  | 19.1                       |
| Worked full time*  | 34.0   | 15.9                               | 8.9                                | 27.1                                  | 14.2                       |

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.3a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by first institution type and first degree program**

|   | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                              |                              |                                 | Attained by spring 1998 |
|---|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
|   | No degree, last year 1995–96                   | No degree, last year 1996–97 | No degree, last year 1997–98 | No degree, enrolled spring 1998 |                         |
| Students who began in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions |  |                              |                              |                                 |                         |
| Total   | 24.7   | 6.7                          | 3.3                          | 8.8                             | 56.4                    |
| Level of first institution  |  |                              |                              |                                 |                         |
| 2-year  | 23.5   | 8.8                          | 4.1                          | 14.6                            | 49.1                    |
| Less-than-2-year  | 25.4   | 5.6                          | 2.9                          | 5.7                             | 60.3                    |
| Degree program at first institution                                     |  |                              |                              |                                 |                         |
| Certificate   | 25.5   | 5.8                          | 2.6                          | 5.9                             | 60.3                    |
| Associate's degree  | 21.9   | 10.5                         | 6.0                          | 20.1                            | 41.6                    |
| Degree goal at first institution  |  |                              |                              |                                 |                         |
| None  | 33.6   | 16.3                         | 3.0                          | 10.1                            | 37.0                    |
| Certificate   | 24.6   | 4.4                          | 2.7                          | 4.8                             | 63.5                    |
| Associate's degree  | 18.3   | 6.8                          | 7.1                          | 16.7                            | 51.2                    |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year                                 | —  | —                            | —                            | —                               | —                       |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained                                 |  |                              |                              |                                 |                         |
| None  | 56.8   | 15.4                         | 7.7                          | 20.2                            | †                       |
| Certificate   | †  | †                            | †                            | †                               | 100.0                   |
| Associate's degree  | †  | †                            | †                            | †                               | 100.0                   |
| Transfer or degree expectation  |  |                              |                              |                                 |                         |
| No degree, no transfer  | 33.6   | 13.0                         | 2.5                          | 9.6                             | 41.4                    |
| Degree, no transfer   | 23.9   | 5.8                          | 3.8                          | 7.0                             | 59.6                    |
| Degree, transfer  | —  | —                            | —                            | —                               | —                       |
| No degree, transfer   | —  | —                            | —                            | —                               | —                       |
| Program/field at first institution                                      |  |                              |                              |                                 |                         |
| Vocational certificate  | 25.5   | 5.8                          | 2.6                          | 5.9                             | 60.3                    |
| Associate's applied fields  | 21.9   | 10.5                         | 6.0                          | 20.1                            | 41.6                    |
| Associate's liberal arts/uncertain                                      | —  | —                            | —                            | —                               | —                       |
| Purpose for enrolling   |  |                              |                              |                                 |                         |
| Job skills  | 22.8   | 7.5                          | 2.4                          | 6.5                             | 60.8                    |
| Degree or certificate   | 26.0   | 6.1                          | 5.6                          | 5.6                             | 56.7                    |
| Transfer to 4-year  | —  | —                            | —                            | —                               | —                       |
| Other   | 32.0   | 9.0                          | 1.5                          | 10.0                            | 47.4                    |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.3b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by attendance patterns**

|   | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total   | 24.7   | 6.7                                | 3.3                                | 8.8                                   | 56.4                       |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998                                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than 12 months   | 43.0   | 6.1                                | 0.3                                | 2.6                                   | 48.1                       |
| 12–24 months  | 0.5  | 9.3                                | 8.3                                | 11.1                                  | 70.8                       |
| 25 months or more   | †  | †                                  | 4.2                                | 41.0                                  | 54.8                       |
| Intensity pattern through 1998  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Always full-time  | 28.1   | 6.1                                | 3.2                                | 7.9                                   | 54.8                       |
| Mixed   | 3.4  | 8.0                                | 4.2                                | 16.7                                  | 67.7                       |
| Always part-time  | 30.3   | 10.1                               | 3.3                                | 3.5                                   | 52.7                       |
| Academic year of last enrollment  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 1995–96   | 63.8   | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 36.2                       |
| 1996–97   | †  | 19.6                               | †                                  | †                                     | 80.4                       |
| 1997–98   | †  | †                                  | 12.4                               | 32.7                                  | 55.0                       |
| Transfer status through 1998  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not transfer  | 27.8   | 6.9                                | 3.3                                | 5.9                                   | 56.2                       |
| Transferred   | 0.0  | 5.4                                | 3.5                                | 32.6                                  | 58.5                       |
| First transfer direction  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not transfer  | 27.8   | 6.9                                | 3.3                                | 5.9                                   | 56.2                       |
| Downward transfer   | —  | —                                  | —                                  | —                                     | —                          |
| Upward or lateral transfer  | 0.0  | 5.9                                | 3.8                                | 33.2                                  | 57.1                       |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998                                      |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Continuously enrolled   | 29.1   | 6.7                                | 1.8                                | 4.3                                   | 58.2                       |
| Not continuously enrolled   | 0.0  | 7.0                                | 12.0                               | 34.4                                  | 46.6                       |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.3c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total   | 24.7   | 6.7                                | 3.3                                | 8.8                                   | 56.4                       |
| Gender  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Male  | 29.2   | 7.1                                | 1.0                                | 7.3                                   | 55.5                       |
| Female  | 23.1   | 6.6                                | 4.5                                | 9.6                                   | 56.2                       |
| Age when first enrolled   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 18 years or younger   | 26.9   | 6.1                                | 3.1                                | 17.2                                  | 46.7                       |
| 19 years  | 17.9   | 8.2                                | 2.2                                | 12.4                                  | 59.3                       |
| 20–23 years   | 22.4   | 5.9                                | 6.0                                | 8.4                                   | 57.3                       |
| 24–29 years   | 25.5   | 8.5                                | 3.7                                | 4.5                                   | 57.7                       |
| 30 or older   | 28.4   | 6.2                                | 1.3                                | 2.1                                   | 62.0                       |
| Race/ethnicity  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| White, non-Hispanic   | 24.2   | 6.8                                | 1.9                                | 8.2                                   | 59.0                       |
| Black, non-Hispanic   | 28.9   | 7.3                                | 4.6                                | 10.1                                  | 49.2                       |
| Hispanic  | 20.8   | 6.0                                | 2.7                                | 10.2                                  | 60.4                       |
| Asian/Pacific Islander  | 33.4   | 9.9                                | 1.1                                | 3.1                                   | 52.6                       |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native  | —  | —                                  | —                                  | —                                     | —                          |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled                         |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Single, no children (dependent)   | 19.3   | 6.7                                | 1.6                                | 13.3                                  | 59.1                       |
| Single, no children (independent)                                       | 14.3   | 7.4                                | 2.7                                | 6.1                                   | 69.6                       |
| Single with children  | 28.7   | 6.4                                | 7.4                                | 4.2                                   | 53.3                       |
| Married   | 36.8   | 6.9                                | 1.9                                | 5.7                                   | 48.7                       |
| Parental education  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| High school diploma or less   | 23.0   | 6.2                                | 2.9                                | 7.0                                   | 61.0                       |
| Some postsecondary  | 20.8   | 4.5                                | 8.9                                | 7.2                                   | 58.6                       |
| Bachelor's degree   | 28.4   | 7.6                                | 0.6                                | 16.4                                  | 47.1                       |
| Advanced degree   | 15.9   | 10.0                               | 6.2                                | 13.7                                  | 54.2                       |
| Student/employee role 1995–96   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not work while enrolled   | 23.7   | 9.6                                | 2.7                                | 5.9                                   | 58.1                       |
| Student working to meet expenses  | 18.0   | 4.1                                | 2.2                                | 13.5                                  | 62.2                       |
| Employee who is enrolled  | 33.2   | 7.0                                | 4.3                                | 7.8                                   | 47.7                       |
| Dependent family income in 1994   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than \$25,000  | 22.1   | 6.1                                | 2.7                                | 14.6                                  | 54.6                       |
| \$25,000–44,999   | 16.4   | 5.5                                | 0.0                                | 10.0                                  | 68.2                       |
| \$45,000–69,999   | 18.1   | 11.5                               | 2.0                                | 10.8                                  | 57.7                       |
| \$70,000 or greater   | 14.6   | 7.8                                | 0.0                                | 20.3                                  | 57.4                       |
| Independent student income in 1994                                      |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than \$6,000   | 28.3   | 5.8                                | 8.1                                | 4.1                                   | 53.7                       |
| \$6,000–14,999  | 25.6   | 7.8                                | 3.0                                | 7.7                                   | 56.0                       |
| \$15,000–24,999   | 26.1   | 10.8                               | 2.2                                | 4.2                                   | 56.8                       |
| \$25,000 or greater   | 33.9   | 4.4                                | 2.8                                | 4.2                                   | 54.7                       |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.3d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|   | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in private, for-profit less-than-4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total   | 24.7   | 6.7                                | 3.3                                | 8.8                                   | 56.4                       |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled                              |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None  | 18.8   | 6.9                                | 2.5                                | 16.4                                  | 55.4                       |
| One   | 23.2   | 4.9                                | 2.2                                | 9.2                                   | 60.5                       |
| Two or three  | 25.9   | 6.8                                | 1.8                                | 7.9                                   | 57.6                       |
| Four or more  | 28.4   | 7.8                                | 6.4                                | 4.1                                   | 53.4                       |
| High school diploma or equivalency status                               |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| High school diploma   | 22.7   | 6.8                                | 2.7                                | 10.5                                  | 57.3                       |
| GED/high school equivalent*   | 25.2   | 6.8                                | 7.3                                | 6.4                                   | 54.4                       |
| None*   | 41.7   | 6.9                                | 1.6                                | 1.3                                   | 48.6                       |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not delay   | 20.6   | 7.2                                | 3.4                                | 18.0                                  | 50.9                       |
| Delayed*  | 25.1   | 6.3                                | 3.5                                | 5.8                                   | 59.3                       |
| Attendance status when first enrolled                                   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Full-time   | 25.4   | 6.0                                | 3.3                                | 9.2                                   | 56.1                       |
| Part-time*  | 20.8   | 10.9                               | 3.3                                | 6.4                                   | 58.6                       |
| Dependency status when first enrolled                                   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Dependent   | 19.3   | 6.7                                | 1.6                                | 13.3                                  | 59.1                       |
| Independent*  | 28.5   | 6.9                                | 4.6                                | 5.2                                   | 54.8                       |
| Number of children when first enrolled                                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None  | 21.2   | 6.8                                | 1.9                                | 10.7                                  | 59.5                       |
| One or more*  | 30.6   | 6.8                                | 5.8                                | 4.0                                   | 52.8                       |
| Single parent status when first enrolled                                |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Not a single parent   | 23.5   | 6.9                                | 1.9                                | 9.5                                   | 58.2                       |
| Single parent*  | 28.7   | 6.4                                | 7.4                                | 4.2                                   | 53.3                       |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not work  | 23.7   | 9.6                                | 2.7                                | 5.9                                   | 58.1                       |
| Worked part time  | 21.6   | 4.0                                | 3.0                                | 12.0                                  | 59.5                       |
| Worked full time*   | 27.0   | 8.1                                | 2.8                                | 10.2                                  | 52.0                       |

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.4a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in 4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by first institution type, first degree program, and academic preparation**

|  | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|--|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
|  | Students who began in 4-year institutions      |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total                                    | 7.1  | 7.3                                | 4.0                                | 77.3                                  | 4.3                        |
| Type of first institution                |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 4-year                                   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Public                                   | 7.3  | 7.5                                | 4.1                                | 77.3                                  | 3.9                        |
| Private, not-for-profit                  | 6.4  | 6.8                                | 4.0                                | 78.5                                  | 4.3                        |
| Private, for-profit                      | 17.4   | 14.0                               | 2.2                                | 41.3                                  | 25.2                       |
| Highest offering of first institution    |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Doctorate-granting                       | 5.7  | 6.4                                | 3.3                                | 81.2                                  | 3.4                        |
| Non-doctorate-granting                   | 8.6  | 8.3                                | 4.9                                | 72.9                                  | 5.3                        |
| Control of first institution             |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Public                                   | 7.3  | 7.5                                | 4.1                                | 77.3                                  | 3.9                        |
| Private, not-for-profit                  | 6.4  | 6.8                                | 4.0                                | 78.5                                  | 4.3                        |
| Private, for-profit                      | 17.4   | 14.0                               | 2.2                                | 41.3                                  | 25.2                       |
| Degree program at first institution      |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Certificate                              | 14.4   | 9.5                                | 5.8                                | 53.1                                  | 17.1                       |
| Associate's degree                       | 24.4   | 18.2                               | 4.5                                | 31.8                                  | 21.1                       |
| Bachelor's degree                        | 5.9  | 6.6                                | 4.0                                | 80.5                                  | 3.0                        |
| Degree goal at first institution         |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None                                     | 23.8   | 13.4                               | 7.3                                | 50.1                                  | 5.5                        |
| Certificate                              | 19.6   | 11.2                               | 5.4                                | 39.0                                  | 24.8                       |
| Associate's degree                       | 20.7   | 14.7                               | 3.9                                | 38.1                                  | 22.6                       |
| Bachelor's degree                        | 4.8  | 6.6                                | 3.8                                | 81.1                                  | 3.8                        |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None                                     | 7.4  | 7.6                                | 4.2                                | 80.8                                  | 0.0                        |
| Certificate                              | †  | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 100.0                      |
| Associate's degree                       | †  | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 100.0                      |
| Met high math/science curriculum         |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not meet threshold                   | 5.6  | 8.2                                | 4.7                                | 78.0                                  | 3.5                        |
| Met curriculum threshold                 | 3.3  | 3.3                                | 3.3                                | 87.5                                  | 2.6                        |
| Number of Advanced Placement tests taken |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None                                     | 7.7  | 9.0                                | 4.5                                | 74.1                                  | 4.7                        |
| One                                      | 3.0  | 4.9                                | 3.6                                | 84.1                                  | 4.4                        |
| More than one                            | 1.8  | 3.1                                | 2.8                                | 89.2                                  | 3.2                        |
| Grade point average in high school       |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| B or less                                | 9.4  | 12.8                               | 7.4                                | 66.2                                  | 4.2                        |
| B+ to A-                                 | 4.7  | 6.5                                | 5.1                                | 80.4                                  | 3.3                        |
| Mostly As                                | 2.0  | 2.7                                | 1.6                                | 91.1                                  | 2.6                        |
| Derived SAT combined score               |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Low quartile (400–700)                   | 11.4   | 11.2                               | 5.0                                | 66.2                                  | 6.1                        |
| Middle quartiles (710–1020)              | 4.8  | 8.1                                | 5.1                                | 78.8                                  | 3.2                        |
| High quartile (1030–1600)                | 4.1  | 3.0                                | 2.4                                | 88.2                                  | 2.4                        |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.4b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in 4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by attendance patterns**

|   | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in 4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total                                     | 7.1  | 7.3                                | 4.0                                | 77.3                                  | 4.3                        |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998    |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than 12 months                       | 72.7   | 15.3                               | 3.3                                | 5.4                                   | 3.3                        |
| 12–24 months                              | 0.2  | 36.3                               | 12.4                               | 39.9                                  | 11.2                       |
| 25 months or more                         | †  | †                                  | 2.3                                | 94.7                                  | 2.9                        |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Always full-time                          | 6.3  | 6.6                                | 3.2                                | 79.8                                  | 4.0                        |
| Mixed                                     | 3.1  | 8.8                                | 6.4                                | 77.0                                  | 4.8                        |
| Always part-time                          | 47.5   | 13.6                               | 7.4                                | 24.9                                  | 6.7                        |
| Academic year of last enrollment          |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 1995–96                                   | 97.4   | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 2.6                        |
| 1996–97                                   | †  | 84.3                               | †                                  | †                                     | 15.7                       |
| 1997–98                                   | †  | †                                  | 4.8                                | 92.0                                  | 3.3                        |
| Transfer status through 1998              |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not transfer                          | 8.8  | 6.9                                | 3.2                                | 77.0                                  | 4.0                        |
| Transferred                               | 0.6  | 8.8                                | 7.1                                | 78.3                                  | 5.2                        |
| First transfer direction                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not transfer                          | 8.8  | 6.9                                | 3.2                                | 77.0                                  | 4.0                        |
| Downward transfer                         | 0.3  | 14.1                               | 9.6                                | 67.0                                  | 9.0                        |
| Upward or lateral transfer                | 0.8  | 4.7                                | 5.1                                | 87.1                                  | 2.3                        |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 8.1  | 6.6                                | 3.2                                | 77.8                                  | 4.3                        |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 0.0  | 12.3                               | 9.9                                | 74.0                                  | 3.8                        |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.4c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in 4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
|   | Students who began in 4-year institutions      |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total   | 7.1  | 7.3                                | 4.0                                | 77.3                                  | 4.3                        |
| Gender  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Male  | 8.6  | 7.8                                | 3.5                                | 75.6                                  | 4.5                        |
| Female  | 5.8  | 6.9                                | 4.5                                | 78.6                                  | 4.2                        |
| Age when first enrolled                         |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 18 years or younger                             | 4.7  | 6.4                                | 3.9                                | 82.1                                  | 3.0                        |
| 19 years  | 8.4  | 8.5                                | 4.2                                | 73.1                                  | 5.9                        |
| 20–23 years                                     | 17.1   | 15.9                               | 6.0                                | 46.6                                  | 14.4                       |
| 24–29 years                                     | 19.7   | 11.7                               | 5.7                                | 50.4                                  | 12.4                       |
| 30 or older                                     | 38.2   | 9.5                                | 3.2                                | 40.3                                  | 8.9                        |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 7.3  | 7.4                                | 3.8                                | 77.6                                  | 3.9                        |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 6.6  | 12.1                               | 6.0                                | 71.0                                  | 4.4                        |
| Hispanic  | 9.4  | 5.6                                | 2.9                                | 75.3                                  | 6.8                        |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 2.3  | 2.0                                | 7.1                                | 86.5                                  | 2.2                        |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 3.9  | 5.8                                | 4.2                                | 80.8                                  | 5.3                        |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 5.4  | 6.7                                | 4.0                                | 80.2                                  | 3.8                        |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 10.9   | 10.6                               | 2.8                                | 67.1                                  | 8.6                        |
| Single with children                            | 20.9   | 16.4                               | 7.9                                | 44.6                                  | 10.2                       |
| Married   | 38.8   | 11.0                               | 4.7                                | 38.0                                  | 7.5                        |
| Parental education                              |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| High school diploma or less                     | 10.4   | 11.9                               | 4.9                                | 67.3                                  | 5.5                        |
| Some postsecondary                              | 9.0  | 9.9                                | 4.6                                | 70.6                                  | 5.9                        |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 4.6  | 5.4                                | 4.2                                | 82.2                                  | 3.6                        |
| Advanced degree                                 | 3.3  | 3.0                                | 2.8                                | 88.5                                  | 2.4                        |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 4.2  | 5.8                                | 3.4                                | 82.0                                  | 4.5                        |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 5.5  | 8.2                                | 3.9                                | 77.7                                  | 4.8                        |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 25.2   | 9.7                                | 8.5                                | 49.6                                  | 7.0                        |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 8.1  | 8.4                                | 4.6                                | 73.3                                  | 5.6                        |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 7.3  | 7.7                                | 5.3                                | 75.7                                  | 4.2                        |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 3.8  | 7.5                                | 2.5                                | 82.9                                  | 3.4                        |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 3.5  | 4.2                                | 3.8                                | 85.8                                  | 2.8                        |
| Independent student income in 1994              |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 20.2   | 18.4                               | 6.6                                | 48.0                                  | 6.8                        |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 18.1   | 12.6                               | 6.0                                | 52.4                                  | 11.0                       |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 22.0   | 8.5                                | 7.5                                | 55.4                                  | 6.6                        |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 39.9   | 9.8                                | 1.1                                | 38.0                                  | 11.3                       |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.4d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in 4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|--|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
|  | Students who began in 4-year institutions      |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total                                      | 7.1  | 7.3                                | 4.0                                | 77.3                                  | 4.3                        |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None                                       | 3.9  | 5.4                                | 3.8                                | 83.9                                  | 3.0                        |
| One  | 9.9  | 10.2                               | 4.6                                | 68.0                                  | 7.3                        |
| Two or three                               | 21.6   | 11.5                               | 4.0                                | 53.5                                  | 9.4                        |
| Four or more                               | 29.3   | 17.4                               | 6.9                                | 38.5                                  | 8.0                        |
| High school diploma or equivalency status  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| High school diploma                        | 7.0  | 7.1                                | 4.0                                | 77.8                                  | 4.1                        |
| GED/high school equivalent*                | 12.3   | 17.8                               | 7.0                                | 51.0                                  | 12.0                       |
| None*                                      | —  | —                                  | —                                  | —                                     | —                          |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment           |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not delay                              | 4.6  | 6.3                                | 4.0                                | 82.3                                  | 2.8                        |
| Delayed*                                   | 17.5   | 11.9                               | 4.2                                | 55.8                                  | 10.6                       |
| Attendance status when first enrolled      |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Full-time                                  | 5.7  | 6.8                                | 4.0                                | 79.6                                  | 4.0                        |
| Part-time*                                 | 19.9   | 11.4                               | 4.6                                | 56.9                                  | 7.3                        |
| Dependency status when first enrolled      |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Dependent                                  | 5.4  | 6.7                                | 4.0                                | 80.2                                  | 3.8                        |
| Independent*                               | 25.1   | 12.8                               | 5.0                                | 48.1                                  | 9.1                        |
| Number of children when first enrolled     |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None                                       | 6.1  | 6.7                                | 3.9                                | 79.2                                  | 4.1                        |
| One or more*                               | 27.8   | 16.5                               | 7.4                                | 41.2                                  | 7.1                        |
| Single parent status when first enrolled   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Not a single parent                        | 6.6  | 6.9                                | 3.9                                | 78.4                                  | 4.1                        |
| Single parent*                             | 20.9   | 16.4                               | 7.9                                | 44.6                                  | 10.2                       |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96              |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not work                               | 4.2  | 5.8                                | 3.4                                | 82.0                                  | 4.5                        |
| Worked part time                           | 5.8  | 7.1                                | 4.2                                | 78.4                                  | 4.5                        |
| Worked full time*                          | 19.1   | 13.9                               | 5.5                                | 55.6                                  | 6.1                        |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.5a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public 4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by first institution type, first degree program, and academic preparation**

|  | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|--|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in public 4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total  | 7.3  | 7.5                                | 4.1                                | 77.3                                  | 3.9                        |
| Highest offering of first institution            |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Doctorate-granting                               | 6.0  | 7.1                                | 3.6                                | 80.3                                  | 3.1                        |
| Non-doctorate-granting                           | 9.6  | 8.3                                | 5.1                                | 71.7                                  | 5.3                        |
| Degree program at first institution              |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Certificate                                      | 15.3   | 13.6                               | 6.5                                | 49.6                                  | 15.1                       |
| Associate's degree                               | 23.7   | 17.9                               | 5.1                                | 31.5                                  | 21.9                       |
| Bachelor's degree                                | 6.1  | 6.8                                | 4.0                                | 80.5                                  | 2.6                        |
| Degree goal at first institution                 |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None   | 22.7   | 12.5                               | 4.5                                | 56.3                                  | 4.0                        |
| Certificate                                      | 21.5   | 15.9                               | 4.3                                | 35.6                                  | 22.8                       |
| Associate's degree                               | 22.6   | 13.5                               | 2.6                                | 36.2                                  | 25.0                       |
| Bachelor's degree                                | 5.4  | 6.7                                | 3.9                                | 80.8                                  | 3.3                        |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained          |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None   | 7.5  | 7.8                                | 4.3                                | 80.4                                  | †                          |
| Certificate                                      | †  | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 100.0                      |
| Associate's degree                               | †  | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 100.0                      |
| Met high math/science curriculum                 |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not meet threshold                           | 6.3  | 8.0                                | 5.0                                | 77.3                                  | 3.4                        |
| Met curriculum threshold                         | 3.1  | 4.0                                | 2.6                                | 87.8                                  | 2.5                        |
| Number of Advanced Placement tests taken         |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None   | 7.9  | 8.6                                | 4.4                                | 75.2                                  | 3.8                        |
| One  | 2.9  | 5.7                                | 4.1                                | 84.6                                  | 2.7                        |
| More than one                                    | 3.2  | 3.9                                | 2.6                                | 86.2                                  | 4.2                        |
| Grade point average in high school               |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| B or less  | 10.8   | 11.3                               | 7.5                                | 66.7                                  | 3.7                        |
| B+ to A-   | 4.0  | 8.1                                | 5.1                                | 80.2                                  | 2.7                        |
| Mostly As  | 2.6  | 2.3                                | 1.4                                | 90.9                                  | 2.7                        |
| Derived SAT combined score                       |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Low quartile (400–700)                           | 11.5   | 11.7                               | 5.5                                | 65.7                                  | 5.6                        |
| Middle quartiles (710–1020)                      | 5.3  | 7.8                                | 4.7                                | 79.5                                  | 2.6                        |
| High quartile (1030–1600)                        | 5.5  | 3.1                                | 2.8                                | 85.8                                  | 2.8                        |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.5b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public 4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by attendance patterns**

|  | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|--|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in public 4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total  | 7.3  | 7.5                                | 4.1                                | 77.3                                  | 3.9                        |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998           |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than 12 months                              | 70.8   | 16.8                               | 3.2                                | 7.0                                   | 2.2                        |
| 12–24 months                                     | 0.3  | 35.2                               | 12.9                               | 40.6                                  | 11.1                       |
| 25 months or more                                | †  | †                                  | 2.3                                | 95.2                                  | 2.5                        |
| Intensity pattern through 1998                   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Always full-time                                 | 6.7  | 6.8                                | 3.4                                | 79.7                                  | 3.4                        |
| Mixed  | 2.9  | 8.5                                | 6.1                                | 76.9                                  | 5.5                        |
| Always part-time                                 | 45.2   | 15.9                               | 5.8                                | 29.8                                  | 3.3                        |
| Academic year of last enrollment                 |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 1995–96  | 98.2   | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 1.8                        |
| 1996–97  | †  | 84.3                               | †                                  | †                                     | 15.7                       |
| 1997–98  | †  | †                                  | 4.9                                | 92.3                                  | 2.8                        |
| Transfer status through 1998                     |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not transfer                                 | 9.1  | 7.5                                | 3.3                                | 76.7                                  | 3.4                        |
| Transferred                                      | 0.2  | 7.6                                | 7.2                                | 79.4                                  | 5.6                        |
| First transfer direction                         |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not transfer                                 | 9.1  | 7.5                                | 3.3                                | 76.7                                  | 3.4                        |
| Downward transfer                                | 0.4  | 12.2                               | 9.7                                | 68.5                                  | 9.3                        |
| Upward or lateral transfer                       | 0.1  | 3.7                                | 5.0                                | 88.9                                  | 2.5                        |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998               |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Continuously enrolled                            | 8.4  | 6.5                                | 3.2                                | 78.1                                  | 3.8                        |
| Not continuously enrolled                        | 0.0  | 13.5                               | 9.9                                | 72.0                                  | 4.5                        |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.5c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public 4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere   |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96               | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
|   | Students who began in public 4-year institutions |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total   | 7.3  | 7.5                                | 4.1                                | 77.3                                  | 3.9                        |
| Gender  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Male  | 8.1  | 7.9                                | 3.9                                | 76.0                                  | 4.2                        |
| Female  | 6.6  | 7.2                                | 4.3                                | 78.2                                  | 3.7                        |
| Age when first enrolled                         |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 18 years or younger                             | 5.0  | 6.6                                | 4.1                                | 81.5                                  | 2.8                        |
| 19 years  | 9.6  | 7.3                                | 3.0                                | 73.7                                  | 6.5                        |
| 20–23 years                                     | 16.4   | 18.5                               | 5.1                                | 46.4                                  | 13.7                       |
| 24–29 years                                     | 20.1   | 12.8                               | 8.2                                | 58.3                                  | 0.7                        |
| 30 or older                                     | 35.6   | 7.9                                | 3.2                                | 46.0                                  | 7.3                        |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 8.0  | 7.9                                | 3.8                                | 77.0                                  | 3.4                        |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 7.0  | 12.0                               | 6.5                                | 71.4                                  | 3.1                        |
| Hispanic  | 6.9  | 4.4                                | 2.5                                | 79.1                                  | 7.1                        |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 1.3  | 2.0                                | 7.7                                | 87.5                                  | 1.4                        |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | —  | —                                  | —                                  | —                                     | —                          |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 5.8  | 6.9                                | 4.0                                | 79.6                                  | 3.7                        |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 11.1   | 9.7                                | 2.4                                | 75.3                                  | 1.5                        |
| Single with children                            | 16.3   | 14.8                               | 8.5                                | 53.3                                  | 7.1                        |
| Married   | 39.0   | 7.7                                | 5.9                                | 40.6                                  | 6.8                        |
| Parental education                              |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| High school diploma or less                     | 9.9  | 11.5                               | 4.3                                | 69.0                                  | 5.2                        |
| Some postsecondary                              | 9.3  | 10.5                               | 5.4                                | 68.9                                  | 5.9                        |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 5.6  | 5.1                                | 4.5                                | 81.8                                  | 3.1                        |
| Advanced degree                                 | 2.3  | 3.3                                | 2.5                                | 90.5                                  | 1.4                        |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 3.6  | 6.1                                | 3.2                                | 83.2                                  | 3.9                        |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 6.6  | 8.6                                | 3.9                                | 76.3                                  | 4.6                        |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 27.3   | 7.4                                | 9.4                                | 50.5                                  | 5.5                        |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 8.5  | 7.5                                | 4.4                                | 73.4                                  | 6.1                        |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 8.9  | 7.9                                | 4.1                                | 75.2                                  | 4.0                        |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 4.3  | 8.0                                | 2.7                                | 82.0                                  | 3.0                        |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 3.0  | 4.8                                | 4.7                                | 85.2                                  | 2.3                        |
| Independent student income in 1994              |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 20.1   | 19.0                               | 6.9                                | 46.8                                  | 7.2                        |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 18.1   | 8.3                                | 7.4                                | 63.5                                  | 2.8                        |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 15.7   | 8.3                                | 11.2                               | 59.6                                  | 5.1                        |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 42.3   | 8.7                                | 0.5                                | 42.6                                  | 5.9                        |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.5d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in public 4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|  | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|--|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in public 4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total  | 7.3  | 7.5                                | 4.1                                | 77.3                                  | 3.9                        |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled       |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None   | 4.2  | 5.2                                | 4.2                                | 83.7                                  | 2.7                        |
| One  | 10.5   | 11.2                               | 3.2                                | 67.8                                  | 7.3                        |
| Two or three                                     | 20.3   | 12.0                               | 2.9                                | 57.7                                  | 7.1                        |
| Four or more                                     | 30.5   | 14.6                               | 7.5                                | 41.9                                  | 5.4                        |
| High school diploma or equivalency status        |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| High school diploma                              | 7.3  | 7.3                                | 4.1                                | 77.7                                  | 3.7                        |
| GED/high school equivalent*                      | 7.7  | 23.5                               | 6.7                                | 48.2                                  | 13.9                       |
| None*  | —  | —                                  | —                                  | —                                     | —                          |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment                 |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not delay                                    | 4.9  | 6.3                                | 4.2                                | 81.8                                  | 2.8                        |
| Delayed*   | 16.9   | 12.5                               | 3.7                                | 58.4                                  | 8.5                        |
| Attendance status when first enrolled            |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Full-time  | 6.0  | 7.0                                | 4.2                                | 79.3                                  | 3.5                        |
| Part-time*                                       | 17.8   | 10.4                               | 3.1                                | 61.1                                  | 7.5                        |
| Dependency status when first enrolled            |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Dependent  | 5.8  | 6.9                                | 4.0                                | 79.6                                  | 3.7                        |
| Independent*                                     | 25.2   | 11.1                               | 5.7                                | 52.7                                  | 5.3                        |
| Number of children when first enrolled           |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None   | 6.5  | 7.0                                | 3.9                                | 79.0                                  | 3.7                        |
| One or more*                                     | 26.0   | 12.7                               | 8.0                                | 48.3                                  | 5.1                        |
| Single parent status when first enrolled         |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Not a single parent                              | 7.0  | 7.0                                | 4.0                                | 78.2                                  | 3.7                        |
| Single parent*                                   | 16.3   | 14.8                               | 8.5                                | 53.3                                  | 7.1                        |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96                    |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not work                                     | 3.6  | 6.1                                | 3.2                                | 83.2                                  | 3.9                        |
| Worked part time                                 | 7.2  | 7.1                                | 4.3                                | 76.8                                  | 4.5                        |
| Worked full time*                                | 19.9   | 13.3                               | 5.3                                | 57.6                                  | 3.9                        |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.6a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by first institution type and first degree program**

|   | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total   | 6.4  | 6.8                                | 4.0                                | 78.5                                  | 4.3                        |
| Highest offering of first institution                             |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Doctorate-granting  | 5.0  | 4.4                                | 2.2                                | 84.0                                  | 4.4                        |
| Non-doctorate-granting  | 7.2  | 8.1                                | 4.9                                | 75.5                                  | 4.3                        |
| Degree program at first institution                               |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Certificate   | 13.1   | 2.5                                | 4.7                                | 59.7                                  | 20.0                       |
| Associate's degree  | 26.9   | 19.8                               | 3.7                                | 30.3                                  | 19.4                       |
| Bachelor's degree   | 5.2  | 6.2                                | 4.0                                | 81.4                                  | 3.2                        |
| Degree goal at first institution                                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None  | 25.6   | 14.0                               | 12.2                               | 41.0                                  | 7.2                        |
| Certificate   | —  | —                                  | —                                  | —                                     | —                          |
| Associate's degree  | 14.9   | 19.1                               | 6.8                                | 40.6                                  | 18.6                       |
| Bachelor's degree   | 3.4  | 6.2                                | 3.5                                | 82.7                                  | 4.1                        |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained                           |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None  | 6.7  | 7.1                                | 4.2                                | 82.1                                  | †                          |
| Certificate   | †  | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 100.0                      |
| Associate's degree  | †  | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 100.0                      |
| Met high math/science curriculum                                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not meet threshold  | 4.1  | 8.7                                | 4.1                                | 79.7                                  | 3.5                        |
| Met curriculum threshold  | 3.6  | 2.5                                | 4.3                                | 86.9                                  | 2.7                        |
| Number of Advanced Placement tests taken                          |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None  | 7.0  | 9.3                                | 4.6                                | 73.3                                  | 5.7                        |
| One   | 2.3  | 3.7                                | 2.8                                | 85.7                                  | 5.4                        |
| More than one   | 0.2  | 2.0                                | 3.1                                | 92.9                                  | 1.9                        |
| Grade point average in high school                                |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| B or less   | 6.2  | 16.3                               | 6.9                                | 65.3                                  | 5.3                        |
| B+ to A-  | 5.9  | 3.8                                | 5.4                                | 80.9                                  | 4.1                        |
| Mostly As   | 1.0  | 3.3                                | 1.9                                | 91.4                                  | 2.5                        |
| Derived SAT combined score  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Low quartile (400–700)  | 11.8   | 10.2                               | 3.5                                | 67.0                                  | 7.6                        |
| Middle quartiles (710–1020)                                       | 3.5  | 8.8                                | 6.0                                | 77.8                                  | 4.0                        |
| High quartile (1030–1600)   | 2.2  | 2.9                                | 1.8                                | 91.3                                  | 1.9                        |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.6b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by attendance patterns**

|   | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total   | 6.4  | 6.8                                | 4.0                                | 78.5                                  | 4.3                        |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998                            |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than 12 months   | 77.0   | 12.3                               | 3.8                                | 2.1                                   | 4.8                        |
| 12–24 months  | †  | 38.7                               | 11.7                               | 39.7                                  | 10.0                       |
| 25 months or more   | †  | †                                  | 2.5                                | 94.3                                  | 3.2                        |
| Intensity pattern through 1998                                    |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Always full-time  | 5.5  | 6.1                                | 2.9                                | 81.2                                  | 4.3                        |
| Mixed   | 3.2  | 9.6                                | 7.2                                | 77.0                                  | 3.1                        |
| Always part-time  | 53.0   | 6.6                                | 10.4                               | 16.8                                  | 13.3                       |
| Academic year of last enrollment                                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 1995–96   | 95.7   | †                                  | †                                  | †                                     | 4.3                        |
| 1996–97   | †  | 86.6                               | †                                  | †                                     | 13.4                       |
| 1997–98   | †  | †                                  | 4.6                                | 91.9                                  | 3.5                        |
| Transfer status through 1998                                      |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not transfer  | 8.0  | 5.6                                | 3.1                                | 78.9                                  | 4.5                        |
| Transferred   | 1.2  | 10.7                               | 7.1                                | 77.1                                  | 3.9                        |
| First transfer direction  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not transfer  | 8.0  | 5.6                                | 3.1                                | 78.9                                  | 4.5                        |
| Downward transfer   | 0.2  | 18.2                               | 9.8                                | 65.0                                  | 6.8                        |
| Upward or lateral transfer  | 1.8  | 6.2                                | 5.4                                | 84.4                                  | 2.2                        |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998                                |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Continuously enrolled   | 7.1  | 6.5                                | 3.3                                | 78.4                                  | 4.6                        |
| Not continuously enrolled   | 0.0  | 9.1                                | 10.0                               | 79.0                                  | 1.9                        |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.6c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total   | 6.4  | 6.8                                | 4.0                                | 78.5                                  | 4.3                        |
| Gender  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Male  | 9.1  | 7.3                                | 2.8                                | 76.4                                  | 4.4                        |
| Female  | 4.3  | 6.4                                | 4.9                                | 80.1                                  | 4.3                        |
| Age when first enrolled   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| 18 years or younger   | 4.1  | 6.0                                | 3.5                                | 83.5                                  | 3.0                        |
| 19 years  | 6.1  | 9.9                                | 6.3                                | 72.8                                  | 4.9                        |
| 20–23 years   | 17.7   | 11.6                               | 8.5                                | 48.5                                  | 13.6                       |
| 24–29 years   | 20.4   | 7.2                                | 2.8                                | 44.3                                  | 25.3                       |
| 30 or older   | 45.3   | 9.8                                | 3.7                                | 31.3                                  | 9.9                        |
| Race/ethnicity  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| White, non-Hispanic   | 5.8  | 6.4                                | 3.7                                | 79.6                                  | 4.5                        |
| Black, non-Hispanic   | 5.9  | 11.7                               | 4.8                                | 71.3                                  | 6.3                        |
| Hispanic  | 13.2   | 7.3                                | 4.0                                | 71.8                                  | 3.7                        |
| Asian/Pacific Islander  | 4.1  | 2.1                                | 6.1                                | 86.0                                  | 1.8                        |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                                    | —  | —                                  | —                                  | —                                     | —                          |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled                   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Single, no children (dependent)                                   | 4.4  | 6.1                                | 4.0                                | 81.9                                  | 3.7                        |
| Single, no children (independent)                                 | 11.5   | 13.4                               | 3.7                                | 56.3                                  | 15.1                       |
| Single with children  | 25.7   | 15.1                               | 6.5                                | 37.2                                  | 15.6                       |
| Married   | 41.1   | 15.9                               | 2.8                                | 34.2                                  | 6.1                        |
| Parental education  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| High school diploma or less                                       | 11.0   | 11.9                               | 6.2                                | 65.6                                  | 5.2                        |
| Some postsecondary  | 7.8  | 9.0                                | 2.9                                | 75.3                                  | 5.1                        |
| Bachelor's degree   | 2.4  | 5.8                                | 3.8                                | 84.1                                  | 4.0                        |
| Advanced degree   | 4.4  | 2.7                                | 3.3                                | 86.3                                  | 3.3                        |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                                     |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not work while enrolled                                       | 5.7  | 5.1                                | 3.8                                | 80.0                                  | 5.4                        |
| Student working to meet expenses                                  | 3.2  | 7.2                                | 3.9                                | 81.5                                  | 4.3                        |
| Employee who is enrolled  | 21.0   | 13.9                               | 7.6                                | 49.2                                  | 8.2                        |
| Dependent family income in 1994                                   |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than \$25,000  | 6.2  | 10.3                               | 5.2                                | 75.0                                  | 3.4                        |
| \$25,000–44,999   | 4.7  | 6.6                                | 7.3                                | 76.9                                  | 4.5                        |
| \$45,000–69,999   | 2.6  | 6.5                                | 2.2                                | 84.7                                  | 4.1                        |
| \$70,000 or greater   | 4.3  | 3.1                                | 2.4                                | 86.9                                  | 3.2                        |
| Independent student income in 1994                                |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Less than \$6,000   | 21.8   | 17.6                               | 5.8                                | 52.5                                  | 2.3                        |
| \$6,000–14,999  | 14.6   | 22.0                               | 3.8                                | 34.6                                  | 25.0                       |
| \$15,000–24,999   | —  | —                                  | —                                  | —                                     | —                          |
| \$25,000 or greater   | 39.9   | 6.3                                | 2.6                                | 32.2                                  | 19.0                       |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 4.6d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions according to whether they attained as of spring 1998, or if they did not attain, the year they left postsecondary education, by persistence risk factors when they first enrolled**

|   | Attainment or last year of enrollment anywhere |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | No degree,<br>last year<br>1995–96             | No degree,<br>last year<br>1996–97 | No degree,<br>last year<br>1997–98 | No degree,<br>enrolled<br>spring 1998 | Attained by<br>spring 1998 |
| Students who began in private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Total   | 6.4  | 6.8                                | 4.0                                | 78.5                                  | 4.3                        |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled                        |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None  | 3.2  | 5.7                                | 3.0                                | 84.7                                  | 3.3                        |
| One   | 8.7  | 7.3                                | 8.2                                | 69.1                                  | 6.7                        |
| Two or three  | 24.8   | 11.5                               | 6.7                                | 48.5                                  | 8.6                        |
| Four or more  | 26.6   | 20.0                               | 5.7                                | 34.6                                  | 13.1                       |
| High school diploma or equivalency status                         |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| High school diploma   | 6.1  | 6.7                                | 3.9                                | 79.1                                  | 4.3                        |
| GED/high school equivalent*                                       | 17.1   | 11.3                               | 8.7                                | 57.3                                  | 5.7                        |
| None*   | —  | —                                  | —                                  | —                                     | —                          |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment                                  |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not delay   | 3.9  | 6.1                                | 3.7                                | 83.9                                  | 2.4                        |
| Delayed*  | 18.3   | 9.9                                | 5.6                                | 52.7                                  | 13.5                       |
| Attendance status when first enrolled                             |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Full-time   | 4.9  | 6.3                                | 3.6                                | 81.1                                  | 4.1                        |
| Part-time*  | 24.8   | 13.1                               | 8.0                                | 47.4                                  | 6.8                        |
| Dependency status when first enrolled                             |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Dependent   | 4.4  | 6.1                                | 4.0                                | 81.9                                  | 3.7                        |
| Independent*  | 25.8   | 14.7                               | 4.0                                | 43.7                                  | 11.8                       |
| Number of children when first enrolled                            |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| None  | 5.2  | 6.3                                | 3.9                                | 80.5                                  | 4.1                        |
| One or more*  | 31.1   | 21.2                               | 6.1                                | 30.5                                  | 11.1                       |
| Single parent status when first enrolled                          |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Not a single parent   | 5.7  | 6.6                                | 3.9                                | 79.6                                  | 4.2                        |
| Single parent*  | 25.7   | 15.1                               | 6.5                                | 37.2                                  | 15.6                       |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96                                     |  |                                    |                                    |                                       |                            |
| Did not work  | 5.7  | 5.1                                | 3.8                                | 80.0                                  | 5.4                        |
| Worked part time  | 3.1  | 6.8                                | 4.1                                | 81.8                                  | 4.3                        |
| Worked full time*   | 17.3   | 14.1                               | 6.5                                | 54.9                                  | 7.3                        |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 5.1a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students with a goal of attaining a certificate when they first enrolled, according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence status, by first institution type and degree program**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |            | No degree        |                    |              |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|   | Certificate             | Associate's | Bachelor's | Still enrolled   |                    | Not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |            | Less-than-4-year | 4-year institution |              |
| Students with a certificate goal        |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Total                                   | 51.7                    | 2.0         | 0.0        | 8.2              | 1.6                | 36.5         |
| Type of first institution               |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| 4-year                                  |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Public                                  | 9.4                     | 13.4        | 0.0        | 4.4              | 31.1               | 41.6         |
| Private, not-for-profit                 | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Private, for-profit                     | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| 2-year                                  |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Public                                  | 39.1                    | 3.4         | 0.0        | 13.6             | 0.2                | 43.6         |
| Private, not-for-profit                 | 15.7                    | 16.5        | 0.0        | 16.8             | 2.2                | 48.8         |
| Private, for-profit                     | 57.9                    | 1.3         | 0.0        | 7.9              | 1.1                | 31.8         |
| Less-than-2-year                        |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Public                                  | 53.2                    | 0.5         | 0.0        | 3.7              | 0.5                | 42.1         |
| Private, for-profit                     | 67.6                    | 0.0         | 0.0        | 4.1              | 0.4                | 27.9         |
| Level of first institution              |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| 4-year                                  | 14.8                    | 10.0        | 0.0        | 2.7              | 36.3               | 36.2         |
| 2-year                                  | 42.1                    | 3.3         | 0.0        | 12.6             | 0.5                | 41.5         |
| Less-than-2-year                        | 64.0                    | 0.1         | 0.0        | 4.1              | 0.5                | 31.3         |
| Control of first institution            |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Public                                  | 40.9                    | 3.2         | 0.0        | 11.2             | 1.5                | 43.2         |
| Private, not-for-profit                 | 22.0                    | 8.4         | 0.0        | 9.2              | 21.3               | 39.1         |
| Private, for-profit                     | 65.7                    | 0.3         | 0.0        | 4.9              | 0.5                | 28.7         |
| Degree program at first institution     |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Certificate                             | 55.2                    | 1.5         | 0.0        | 6.4              | 1.5                | 35.4         |
| Associate's degree                      | 9.8                     | 7.6         | 0.0        | 30.5             | 1.1                | 50.9         |
| Bachelor's degree                       | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| None                                    | †                       | †           | †          | 17.8             | 3.5                | 78.7         |
| Certificate                             | 99.9                    | 0.1         | 0.0        | †                | †                  | †            |
| Associate's degree                      | —                       | —           | —          | †                | †                  | †            |
| Transfer or degree expectation          |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| No degree, no transfer                  | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Degree, no transfer                     | 55.5                    | 1.7         | 0.0        | 6.9              | 0.4                | 35.6         |
| Degree, transfer                        | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| No degree, transfer                     | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Program/field at first institution      |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Vocational certificate                  | 56.2                    | 1.5         | 0.0        | 6.6              | 0.5                | 35.2         |
| Associate's applied fields              | 10.5                    | 4.6         | 0.0        | 31.7             | 0.0                | 53.3         |
| Associate's liberal arts/uncertain      | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Purpose for enrolling                   |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Job skills                              | 53.6                    | 2.0         | 0.0        | 6.9              | 0.5                | 37.1         |
| Degree or certificate                   | 51.2                    | 3.7         | 0.0        | 6.5              | 0.4                | 38.2         |
| Transfer to 4-year                      | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Other                                   | 51.8                    | 0.2         | 0.0        | 4.6              | 0.0                | 43.4         |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 5.1b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students with a goal of attaining a certificate when they first enrolled, according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence status, by purpose for enrolling and attendance patterns**

|  | Highest degree attained          |             |            | No degree        |                    |              |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|  | Certificate                      | Associate's | Bachelor's | Still enrolled   |                    | Not enrolled |
|  |                                  |             |            | Less-than-4-year | 4-year institution |              |
|  | Students with a certificate goal |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Total                                  | 51.7                             | 2.0         | 0.0        | 8.2              | 1.6                | 36.5         |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998 |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Less than 12 months                    | 47.5                             | 0.8         | 0.0        | 0.9              | 0.2                | 50.5         |
| 12–24 months                           | 67.1                             | 3.3         | 0.0        | 7.3              | 0.5                | 21.9         |
| 25 months or more                      | 29.3                             | 4.7         | 0.0        | 50.6             | 12.5               | 3.0          |
| Intensity pattern through 1998         |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Always full-time                       | 58.4                             | 3.3         | 0.0        | 3.3              | 1.3                | 33.7         |
| Mixed                                  | 53.8                             | 1.0         | 0.0        | 19.6             | 4.1                | 21.5         |
| Always part-time                       | 35.7                             | 0.1         | 0.0        | 9.4              | 0.2                | 54.7         |
| Academic year of last enrollment       |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| 1995–96                                | 38.8                             | 1.0         | 0.0        | †                | †                  | 60.2         |
| 1996–97                                | 76.2                             | 1.9         | 0.0        | †                | †                  | 22.0         |
| 1997–98                                | 40.1                             | 4.3         | 0.0        | 37.5             | 7.4                | 10.7         |
| Transfer status through 1998           |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not transfer                       | 52.3                             | 1.6         | 0.0        | 6.7              | 0.9                | 38.5         |
| Transferred                            | 44.6                             | 6.8         | 0.0        | 24.7             | 9.3                | 14.6         |
| First transfer direction               |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not transfer                       | 52.3                             | 1.6         | 0.0        | 6.7              | 0.9                | 38.5         |
| Downward transfer                      | —                                | —           | —          | —                | †                  | —            |
| Upward or lateral transfer             | 41.2                             | 7.5         | 0.0        | 24.9             | 10.1               | 16.4         |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998     |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Continuously enrolled                  | 52.4                             | 1.8         | 0.0        | 6.4              | 1.4                | 38.0         |
| Not continuously enrolled              | 45.4                             | 3.5         | 0.0        | 23.7             | 3.7                | 23.8         |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 5.1c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students with a goal of attaining a certificate when they first enrolled, according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence status, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Highest degree attained          |             |            | No degree        |                    |              |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|   | Certificate                      | Associate's | Bachelor's | Still enrolled   |                    | Not enrolled |
|   |                                  |             |            | Less-than-4-year | 4-year institution |              |
|   | Students with a certificate goal |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Total   | 51.7                             | 2.0         | 0.0        | 8.2              | 1.6                | 36.5         |
| Gender  |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Male  | 49.7                             | 2.0         | 0.0        | 7.6              | 1.8                | 38.9         |
| Female  | 52.9                             | 2.0         | 0.0        | 8.6              | 1.5                | 35.0         |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| 18 years or younger                             | 45.6                             | 7.1         | 0.0        | 6.7              | 4.9                | 35.8         |
| 19 years  | 44.7                             | 1.3         | 0.0        | 20.2             | 1.9                | 32.0         |
| 20–23 years                                     | 53.1                             | 0.1         | 0.0        | 12.4             | 0.4                | 34.1         |
| 24–29 years                                     | 60.6                             | 0.0         | 0.0        | 3.6              | 0.0                | 35.9         |
| 30 or older                                     | 51.5                             | 1.3         | 0.0        | 5.0              | 1.1                | 41.0         |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 53.6                             | 2.9         | 0.0        | 7.8              | 2.4                | 33.4         |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 52.8                             | 0.2         | 0.0        | 1.3              | 0.9                | 44.8         |
| Hispanic  | 47.2                             | 0.9         | 0.0        | 17.1             | 0.3                | 34.5         |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | —                                | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | —                                | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 46.5                             | 4.9         | 0.0        | 11.7             | 3.7                | 33.2         |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 59.0                             | 0.3         | 0.0        | 6.3              | 0.2                | 34.2         |
| Single with children                            | 56.3                             | 0.3         | 0.0        | 4.2              | 0.0                | 39.3         |
| Married   | 52.1                             | 1.0         | 0.0        | 8.0              | 1.0                | 38.0         |
| Parental education                              |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| High school diploma or less                     | 51.3                             | 2.0         | 0.0        | 8.2              | 1.1                | 37.3         |
| Some postsecondary                              | 50.6                             | 0.9         | 0.0        | 7.2              | 2.3                | 39.0         |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 40.1                             | 7.1         | 0.0        | 14.8             | 4.9                | 33.1         |
| Advanced degree                                 | —                                | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 58.9                             | 0.6         | 0.0        | 3.5              | 1.3                | 35.8         |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 45.5                             | 2.7         | 0.0        | 15.6             | 2.8                | 33.5         |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 45.7                             | 3.5         | 0.0        | 7.4              | 1.0                | 42.4         |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 45.7                             | 6.4         | 0.0        | 8.5              | 3.7                | 35.8         |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 50.1                             | 2.1         | 0.0        | 20.4             | 2.1                | 25.3         |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 35.5                             | 8.5         | 0.0        | 8.6              | 5.8                | 41.7         |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 59.3                             | 0.0         | 0.0        | 2.5              | 5.6                | 32.7         |
| Independent student income in 1994              |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 64.3                             | 0.3         | 0.0        | 3.0              | 0.0                | 32.5         |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 53.4                             | 0.1         | 0.0        | 9.4              | 0.1                | 36.9         |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 57.2                             | 0.9         | 0.0        | 2.9              | 1.1                | 38.0         |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 46.4                             | 1.0         | 0.0        | 9.5              | 0.6                | 42.5         |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 5.1d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students with a goal of attaining a certificate when they first enrolled, according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence status, by persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|  | Highest degree attained          |             |            | No degree        |                    |              |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|  | Certificate                      | Associate's | Bachelor's | Still enrolled   |                    | Not enrolled |
|  |                                  |             |            | Less-than-4-year | 4-year institution |              |
|  | Students with a certificate goal |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Total                                      | 51.7                             | 2.0         | 0.0        | 8.2              | 1.6                | 36.5         |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| None                                       | 53.8                             | 9.6         | 0.0        | 4.5              | 6.1                | 26.0         |
| One  | 42.1                             | 4.2         | 0.0        | 15.8             | 2.0                | 35.9         |
| Two or three                               | 56.8                             | 0.5         | 0.0        | 7.3              | 1.0                | 34.4         |
| Four or more                               | 51.8                             | 0.5         | 0.0        | 6.9              | 0.7                | 40.1         |
| High school diploma or equivalency status  |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| High school diploma                        | 49.5                             | 2.1         | 0.0        | 9.5              | 2.2                | 36.7         |
| GED/high school equivalent*                | 64.1                             | 0.3         | 0.0        | 6.4              | 0.0                | 29.2         |
| None*                                      | 44.4                             | 4.7         | 0.0        | 1.2              | 0.0                | 49.7         |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment           |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not delay                              | 45.5                             | 4.9         | 0.0        | 14.4             | 4.7                | 30.5         |
| Delayed*                                   | 54.6                             | 0.7         | 0.0        | 7.1              | 0.8                | 36.8         |
| Attendance status when first enrolled      |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Full-time                                  | 56.5                             | 2.8         | 0.0        | 7.3              | 1.8                | 31.6         |
| Part-time*                                 | 43.6                             | 0.6         | 0.0        | 10.1             | 1.4                | 44.3         |
| Dependency status when first enrolled      |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Dependent                                  | 46.5                             | 4.9         | 0.0        | 11.7             | 3.7                | 33.2         |
| Independent*                               | 55.2                             | 0.6         | 0.0        | 6.2              | 0.5                | 37.6         |
| Number of children when first enrolled     |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| None                                       | 52.7                             | 2.9         | 0.0        | 10.3             | 2.2                | 32.0         |
| One or more*                               | 51.5                             | 0.7         | 0.0        | 4.9              | 0.7                | 42.2         |
| Single parent status when first enrolled   |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Not a single parent                        | 51.0                             | 2.6         | 0.0        | 9.3              | 2.1                | 35.1         |
| Single parent*                             | 56.3                             | 0.3         | 0.0        | 4.2              | 0.0                | 39.3         |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96              |                                  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not work                               | 58.9                             | 0.6         | 0.0        | 3.5              | 1.3                | 35.8         |
| Worked part time                           | 52.1                             | 5.8         | 0.0        | 10.7             | 1.8                | 29.6         |
| Worked full time*                          | 44.1                             | 0.0         | 0.0        | 11.1             | 1.8                | 43.0         |

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 5.2a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students with a goal of attaining an associate’s degree when they first enrolled, according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence status, by first institution type and degree program**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |            | No degree        |                    |              |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|  | Certificate             | Associate’s | Bachelor’s | Still enrolled   |                    | Not enrolled |
|  |                         |             |            | Less-than-4-year | 4-year institution |              |
| Students with an associate’s degree goal |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Total                                    | 6.2                     | 14.5        | 0.1        | 31.6             | 6.6                | 41.1         |
| Type of first institution                |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| 4-year                                   |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Public                                   | 7.9                     | 17.1        | 0.0        | 5.5              | 30.7               | 38.8         |
| Private, not-for-profit                  | 2.1                     | 16.6        | 0.0        | 1.8              | 38.8               | 40.8         |
| Private, for-profit                      | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| 2-year                                   |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Public                                   | 5.9                     | 11.2        | 0.0        | 35.2             | 5.4                | 42.4         |
| Private, not-for-profit                  | 7.6                     | 41.9        | 2.7        | 12.6             | 5.2                | 30.0         |
| Private, for-profit                      | 9.7                     | 41.2        | 0.0        | 15.0             | 2.3                | 31.9         |
| Level of first institution               |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| 4-year                                   | 5.9                     | 16.7        | 0.0        | 5.0              | 33.1               | 39.3         |
| 2-year                                   | 6.2                     | 14.3        | 0.1        | 33.0             | 5.1                | 41.3         |
| Less-than-2-year                         | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Control of first institution             |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Public                                   | 5.9                     | 11.4        | 0.0        | 34.1             | 6.3                | 42.2         |
| Private, not-for-profit                  | 5.4                     | 31.8        | 1.6        | 8.3              | 18.5               | 34.3         |
| Private, for-profit                      | 9.4                     | 39.2        | 0.0        | 14.6             | 4.4                | 32.4         |
| Degree program at first institution      |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Certificate                              | 8.2                     | 12.3        | 0.0        | 19.0             | 8.1                | 52.5         |
| Associate’s degree                       | 6.1                     | 14.6        | 0.1        | 32.3             | 6.1                | 40.7         |
| Bachelor’s degree                        | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained  |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| None                                     | †                       | †           | †          | 39.8             | 8.3                | 51.9         |
| Certificate                              | 88.5                    | 10.6        | 0.9        | †                | †                  | †            |
| Associate’s degree                       | †                       | 100.0       | 0.0        | †                | †                  | †            |
| Transfer or degree expectation           |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| No degree, no transfer                   | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Degree, no transfer                      | 8.2                     | 13.3        | 0.1        | 33.0             | 2.0                | 43.5         |
| Degree, transfer                         | 2.6                     | 17.8        | 0.0        | 34.8             | 11.5               | 33.3         |
| No degree, transfer                      | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Program/field at first institution       |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Vocational certificate                   | 8.5                     | 12.1        | 0.0        | 18.0             | 8.0                | 53.4         |
| Associate’s applied fields               | 7.5                     | 16.7        | 0.1        | 32.3             | 3.8                | 39.6         |
| Associate’s liberal arts/uncertain       | 3.9                     | 10.9        | 0.0        | 36.1             | 6.8                | 42.3         |
| Purpose for enrolling                    |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Job skills                               | 10.1                    | 14.4        | 0.0        | 22.1             | 1.7                | 51.8         |
| Degree or certificate                    | 6.6                     | 11.6        | 0.0        | 34.7             | 1.9                | 45.3         |
| Transfer to 4-year                       | 2.6                     | 18.1        | 0.0        | 34.8             | 11.0               | 33.4         |
| Other                                    | 7.0                     | 10.6        | 0.6        | 28.4             | 5.1                | 48.4         |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 5.2b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students with a goal of attaining an associate’s degree when they first enrolled, according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence status, by purpose for enrolling, transfer expectations, and attendance patterns**

|  | Highest degree attained                  |             |            | No degree        |                    |              |
|--|--|-------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|  | Certificate                              | Associate’s | Bachelor’s | Still enrolled   |                    | Not enrolled |
|  |  |             |            | Less-than-4-year | 4-year institution |              |
|  | Students with an associate’s degree goal |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Total                                  | 6.2                                      | 14.5        | 0.1        | 31.6             | 6.6                | 41.1         |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998 |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Less than 12 months                    | 4.1                                      | 1.6         | 0.0        | 4.5              | 0.6                | 89.2         |
| 12–24 months                           | 9.5                                      | 13.1        | 0.2        | 27.1             | 3.2                | 47.0         |
| 25 months or more                      | 4.7                                      | 24.1        | 0.0        | 53.3             | 13.4               | 4.5          |
| Intensity pattern through 1998         |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Always full-time                       | 6.4                                      | 27.4        | 0.0        | 28.1             | 8.8                | 29.5         |
| Mixed                                  | 7.8                                      | 9.4         | 0.2        | 40.9             | 7.8                | 33.9         |
| Always part-time                       | 3.0                                      | 0.2         | 0.0        | 21.2             | 0.4                | 75.3         |
| Academic year of last enrollment       |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| 1995–96                                | 2.8                                      | 1.1         | 0.0        | †                | †                  | 96.1         |
| 1996–97                                | 8.7                                      | 17.5        | 0.3        | †                | †                  | 73.5         |
| 1997–98                                | 6.4                                      | 17.5        | 0.0        | 52.2             | 10.9               | 13.0         |
| Transfer status through 1998           |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not transfer                       | 6.2                                      | 9.3         | 0.0        | 34.3             | 2.4                | 47.8         |
| Transferred                            | 6.3                                      | 35.9        | 0.3        | 20.2             | 23.9               | 13.4         |
| First transfer direction               |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not transfer                       | 6.2                                      | 9.3         | 0.0        | 34.3             | 2.4                | 47.8         |
| Downward transfer                      | 21.4                                     | 8.3         | 0.0        | 33.2             | †                  | 37.2         |
| Upward or lateral transfer             | 4.4                                      | 39.3        | 0.4        | 18.6             | 26.8               | 10.5         |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998     |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Continuously enrolled                  | 5.5                                      | 17.7        | 0.1        | 27.2             | 5.8                | 43.7         |
| Not continuously enrolled              | 8.8                                      | 2.1         | 0.0        | 48.2             | 9.5                | 31.4         |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 5.2c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students with a goal of attaining an associate’s degree when they first enrolled, according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence status, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |            | No degree        |                    |              |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|   | Certificate             | Associate’s | Bachelor’s | Still enrolled   |                    | Not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |            | Less-than-4-year | 4-year institution |              |
| Students with an associate’s degree goal        |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Total   | 6.2                     | 14.5        | 0.1        | 31.6             | 6.6                | 41.1         |
| Gender  |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Male  | 5.9                     | 15.3        | 0.1        | 33.1             | 7.2                | 38.4         |
| Female  | 6.5                     | 13.8        | 0.0        | 30.3             | 6.1                | 43.4         |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| 18 years or younger                             | 5.8                     | 20.0        | 0.0        | 34.4             | 8.6                | 31.3         |
| 19 years  | 2.7                     | 14.6        | 0.0        | 42.8             | 9.4                | 30.5         |
| 20–23 years                                     | 8.6                     | 8.0         | 0.4        | 30.9             | 5.5                | 46.7         |
| 24–29 years                                     | 3.0                     | 5.3         | 0.0        | 19.3             | 1.8                | 70.6         |
| 30 or older                                     | 10.4                    | 7.3         | 0.0        | 19.7             | 0.9                | 61.7         |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 6.8                     | 15.6        | 0.1        | 32.4             | 6.7                | 38.4         |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 7.2                     | 12.4        | 0.0        | 18.9             | 4.7                | 56.9         |
| Hispanic  | 3.5                     | 14.2        | 0.0        | 34.6             | 7.3                | 40.4         |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 0.5                     | 3.6         | 0.0        | 42.5             | 4.0                | 49.5         |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 5.5                     | 17.3        | 0.1        | 37.7             | 8.4                | 31.1         |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 4.5                     | 7.7         | 0.0        | 12.7             | 3.6                | 71.5         |
| Single with children                            | 11.2                    | 15.1        | 0.0        | 22.0             | 4.5                | 47.3         |
| Married   | 4.5                     | 4.4         | 0.0        | 25.6             | 1.5                | 64.0         |
| Parental education                              |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| High school diploma or less                     | 6.6                     | 12.6        | 0.0        | 33.3             | 4.2                | 43.4         |
| Some postsecondary                              | 5.3                     | 13.0        | 0.0        | 30.9             | 7.9                | 42.9         |
| Bachelor’s degree                               | 6.0                     | 25.2        | 0.4        | 28.2             | 5.1                | 35.2         |
| Advanced degree                                 | 0.9                     | 10.8        | 0.0        | 22.9             | 33.3               | 32.1         |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 5.7                     | 17.3        | 0.0        | 30.4             | 6.3                | 40.3         |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 6.9                     | 16.8        | 0.1        | 31.3             | 9.5                | 35.3         |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 5.4                     | 8.9         | 0.0        | 26.7             | 0.9                | 58.1         |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 3.8                     | 15.9        | 0.0        | 46.8             | 5.8                | 27.7         |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 5.9                     | 16.8        | 0.0        | 31.8             | 9.8                | 35.7         |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 8.5                     | 19.3        | 0.0        | 33.5             | 6.3                | 32.4         |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 3.6                     | 17.4        | 0.6        | 35.7             | 14.8               | 27.9         |
| Independent student income in 1994              |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 5.5                     | 13.1        | 0.0        | 22.9             | 6.4                | 52.1         |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 9.7                     | 12.2        | 0.0        | 19.1             | 3.7                | 55.4         |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 12.5                    | 6.3         | 0.0        | 23.4             | 1.9                | 55.9         |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 3.4                     | 4.5         | 0.0        | 16.7             | 0.4                | 75.0         |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 5.2d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students with a goal of attaining an associate’s degree when they first enrolled, according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence status, by persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|  | Highest degree attained                  |             |            | No degree        |                    |              |
|--|--|-------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|  | Certificate                              | Associate’s | Bachelor’s | Still enrolled   |                    | Not enrolled |
|  |  |             |            | Less-than-4-year | 4-year institution |              |
|  | Students with an associate’s degree goal |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Total                                      | 6.2                                      | 14.5        | 0.1        | 31.6             | 6.6                | 41.1         |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| None                                       | 4.8                                      | 29.8        | 0.0        | 32.5             | 13.7               | 19.3         |
| One  | 4.9                                      | 11.0        | 0.3        | 43.8             | 5.8                | 34.3         |
| Two or three                               | 6.6                                      | 5.2         | 0.0        | 33.8             | 2.7                | 51.7         |
| Four or more                               | 7.8                                      | 8.0         | 0.0        | 20.1             | 2.6                | 61.5         |
| High school diploma or equivalency status  |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| High school diploma                        | 6.5                                      | 15.1        | 0.1        | 32.9             | 6.9                | 38.5         |
| GED/high school equivalent*                | 3.1                                      | 10.6        | 0.0        | 22.8             | 3.2                | 60.3         |
| None*                                      | —  | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment           |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not delay                              | 5.9                                      | 19.8        | 0.0        | 35.7             | 9.4                | 29.2         |
| Delayed*                                   | 6.7                                      | 8.2         | 0.1        | 27.5             | 3.1                | 54.4         |
| Attendance status when first enrolled      |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Full-time                                  | 7.1                                      | 20.8        | 0.0        | 31.9             | 7.5                | 32.7         |
| Part-time*                                 | 4.8                                      | 4.4         | 0.2        | 30.9             | 5.1                | 54.7         |
| Dependency status when first enrolled      |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Dependent                                  | 5.5                                      | 17.3        | 0.1        | 37.7             | 8.4                | 31.1         |
| Independent*                               | 7.0                                      | 9.2         | 0.0        | 20.9             | 3.1                | 59.7         |
| Number of children when first enrolled     |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| None                                       | 5.4                                      | 15.9        | 0.1        | 34.5             | 7.5                | 36.6         |
| One or more*                               | 8.3                                      | 9.5         | 0.0        | 22.7             | 3.3                | 56.3         |
| Single parent status when first enrolled   |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Not a single parent                        | 5.3                                      | 14.5        | 0.1        | 33.5             | 7.0                | 39.7         |
| Single parent*                             | 11.2                                     | 15.1        | 0.0        | 22.0             | 4.5                | 47.3         |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96              |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not work                               | 5.7                                      | 17.3        | 0.0        | 30.4             | 6.3                | 40.3         |
| Worked part time                           | 7.0                                      | 19.2        | 0.1        | 32.9             | 10.2               | 30.5         |
| Worked full time*                          | 5.9                                      | 7.5         | 0.0        | 28.8             | 1.1                | 56.7         |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 5.3a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students with a goal of attaining a bachelor’s degree when they first enrolled, according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence status, by first institution type and degree program**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |            | No degree        |                    |              |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|  | Certificate             | Associate’s | Bachelor’s | Still enrolled   |                    | Not enrolled |
|  |                         |             |            | Less-than-4-year | 4-year institution |              |
| Students with a bachelor’s degree goal   |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Total                                    | 1.5                     | 2.7         | 0.7        | 12.5             | 63.2               | 19.4         |
| Type of first institution                |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| 4-year                                   |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Public                                   | 1.0                     | 1.3         | 1.0        | 5.9              | 74.8               | 16.0         |
| Private, not-for-profit                  | 1.3                     | 2.0         | 0.9        | 3.9              | 78.8               | 13.1         |
| Private, for-profit                      | 7.8                     | 15.8        | 5.4        | 10.7             | 33.3               | 27.1         |
| 2-year                                   |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Public                                   | 2.6                     | 5.2         | 0.0        | 36.1             | 22.9               | 33.3         |
| Private, not-for-profit                  | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Private, for-profit                      | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Less-than-2-year                         | —                       | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Level of first institution               |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| 4-year                                   | 1.1                     | 1.7         | 1.0        | 5.3              | 75.9               | 15.1         |
| 2-year                                   | 2.6                     | 6.0         | 0.0        | 35.7             | 22.5               | 33.2         |
| Highest offering of first institution*   |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Doctorate-granting                       | 1.0                     | 1.2         | 1.1        | 5.1              | 78.8               | 12.7         |
| Non-doctorate-granting                   | 1.2                     | 1.9         | 0.7        | 5.3              | 73.3               | 17.7         |
| Control of first institution             |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Public                                   | 1.5                     | 2.6         | 0.7        | 15.7             | 58.1               | 21.6         |
| Private, not-for-profit                  | 1.3                     | 2.2         | 0.9        | 4.0              | 78.5               | 13.2         |
| Private, for-profit                      | 4.7                     | 26.3        | 3.2        | 14.8             | 21.8               | 29.2         |
| Degree program at first institution      |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Certificate                              | 0.7                     | 7.8         | 0.0        | 16.9             | 49.8               | 24.9         |
| Associate’s degree                       | 2.8                     | 7.1         | 0.0        | 34.1             | 22.3               | 33.8         |
| Bachelor’s degree                        | 1.1                     | 1.1         | 1.0        | 5.3              | 76.9               | 14.5         |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained  |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| None                                     | †                       | †           | †          | 13.2             | 66.5               | 20.4         |
| Certificate                              | 91.2                    | 3.8         | 5.0        | †                | †                  | †            |
| Associate’s degree                       | †                       | 97.2        | 2.8        | †                | †                  | †            |
| Met high math/science curriculum         |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not meet threshold                   | 0.9                     | 1.8         | 0.6        | 11.7             | 66.6               | 18.4         |
| Met curriculum threshold                 | 0.7                     | 3.0         | 0.7        | 7.5              | 78.9               | 9.2          |
| Number of Advanced Placement tests taken |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| None                                     | 1.8                     | 3.2         | 0.6        | 14.6             | 57.8               | 22.0         |
| One                                      | 1.3                     | 1.1         | 1.3        | 8.8              | 70.9               | 16.6         |
| More than one                            | 0.5                     | 2.0         | 1.2        | 4.7              | 84.9               | 6.8          |
| Grade point average in high school       |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| B or less                                | 0.9                     | 3.8         | 0.4        | 18.7             | 49.8               | 26.5         |
| B+ to A-                                 | 1.4                     | 1.5         | 0.6        | 11.8             | 68.7               | 16.1         |
| Mostly As                                | 0.7                     | 2.3         | 0.8        | 3.2              | 87.1               | 5.9          |
| Derived SAT combined score               |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Low quartile (400–700)                   | 1.1                     | 3.0         | 0.5        | 24.3             | 45.8               | 25.4         |
| Middle quartiles (710–1020)              | 1.0                     | 2.1         | 0.5        | 9.7              | 70.7               | 16.0         |
| High quartile (1030–1600)                | 0.7                     | 2.4         | 1.0        | 2.3              | 84.5               | 9.3          |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*4-year institutions only.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 5.3b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students with a goal of attaining a bachelor’s degree when they first enrolled, according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence status, by high school academic preparation, and attendance patterns**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |            | No degree        |                    |              |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|  | Certificate             | Associate’s | Bachelor’s | Still enrolled   |                    | Not enrolled |
|  |                         |             |            | Less-than-4-year | 4-year institution |              |
| Students with a bachelor’s degree goal |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Total                                  | 1.5                     | 2.7         | 0.7        | 12.5             | 63.2               | 19.4         |
| Number of months enrolled through 1998 |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Less than 12 months                    | 2.3                     | 0.5         | 0.0        | 5.7              | 1.3                | 90.3         |
| 12–24 months                           | 2.5                     | 4.5         | 1.9        | 20.8             | 24.8               | 45.5         |
| 25 months or more                      | 1.1                     | 2.6         | 0.6        | 11.6             | 81.6               | 2.4          |
| Intensity pattern through 1998         |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Always full-time                       | 1.0                     | 3.2         | 0.9        | 6.6              | 71.8               | 16.6         |
| Mixed                                  | 2.0                     | 1.8         | 0.6        | 26.6             | 49.5               | 19.6         |
| Always part-time                       | 5.9                     | 0.9         | 0.0        | 15.0             | 19.6               | 58.6         |
| Academic year of last enrollment       |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| 1995–96                                | 0.1                     | 0.7         | 0.0        | †                | †                  | 99.2         |
| 1996–97                                | 3.3                     | 5.5         | 3.7        | †                | †                  | 87.4         |
| 1997–98                                | 1.4                     | 2.6         | 0.5        | 14.9             | 75.5               | 5.0          |
| Transfer status through 1998           |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not transfer                       | 1.3                     | 2.2         | 0.9        | 8.7              | 65.3               | 21.7         |
| Transferred                            | 2.0                     | 4.4         | 0.2        | 24.7             | 56.6               | 12.1         |
| First transfer direction               |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not transfer                       | 1.3                     | 2.2         | 0.9        | 8.7              | 65.3               | 21.7         |
| Downward transfer                      | 5.1                     | 3.1         | 0.0        | 60.6             | 12.1               | 19.1         |
| Upward or lateral transfer             | 1.0                     | 4.8         | 0.2        | 12.7             | 71.5               | 9.8          |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998     |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Continuously enrolled                  | 1.3                     | 2.9         | 0.8        | 9.5              | 66.3               | 19.1         |
| Not continuously enrolled              | 2.7                     | 1.3         | 0.0        | 33.3             | 41.3               | 21.4         |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 5.3c—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students with a goal of attaining a bachelor’s degree when they first enrolled, according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence status, by demographic characteristics**

|   | Highest degree attained |             |            | No degree        |                    |              |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|   | Certificate             | Associate’s | Bachelor’s | Still enrolled   |                    | Not enrolled |
|   |                         |             |            | Less-than-4-year | 4-year institution |              |
| Students with a bachelor’s degree goal          |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Total   | 1.5                     | 2.7         | 0.7        | 12.5             | 63.2               | 19.4         |
| Gender  |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Male  | 1.8                     | 2.2         | 0.8        | 15.7             | 59.0               | 20.6         |
| Female  | 1.2                     | 3.1         | 0.7        | 9.7              | 66.9               | 18.4         |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| 18 years or younger                             | 1.3                     | 2.3         | 0.3        | 11.5             | 70.2               | 14.4         |
| 19 years  | 1.3                     | 2.5         | 1.3        | 20.2             | 46.7               | 28.0         |
| 20–23 years                                     | 4.1                     | 3.8         | 5.0        | 10.2             | 34.9               | 41.9         |
| 24–29 years                                     | 0.9                     | 10.6        | 0.0        | 22.8             | 29.1               | 36.7         |
| 30 or older                                     | 3.1                     | 4.0         | 1.1        | 3.3              | 46.6               | 41.9         |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 0.9                     | 3.0         | 0.7        | 10.5             | 66.7               | 18.2         |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 3.8                     | 2.3         | 0.0        | 12.6             | 50.8               | 30.6         |
| Hispanic  | 2.7                     | 0.9         | 2.0        | 19.9             | 53.2               | 21.3         |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 1.5                     | 2.7         | 0.3        | 15.9             | 69.7               | 10.0         |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 0.0                     | 3.8         | 0.0        | 0.7              | 54.8               | 40.7         |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 1.4                     | 2.4         | 0.8        | 12.1             | 66.6               | 16.7         |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 1.0                     | 3.5         | 1.5        | 18.4             | 33.4               | 42.2         |
| Single with children                            | 4.6                     | 5.1         | 0.0        | 12.6             | 32.9               | 44.9         |
| Married   | 3.4                     | 6.5         | 0.0        | 6.6              | 39.2               | 44.3         |
| Parental education                              |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| High school diploma or less                     | 2.0                     | 2.9         | 1.1        | 13.9             | 52.0               | 28.2         |
| Some postsecondary                              | 1.3                     | 4.8         | 0.6        | 16.5             | 52.4               | 24.6         |
| Bachelor’s degree                               | 1.6                     | 2.4         | 0.5        | 14.8             | 67.2               | 13.5         |
| Advanced degree                                 | 1.1                     | 1.5         | 0.7        | 6.3              | 82.9               | 7.7          |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 1.6                     | 2.3         | 0.6        | 9.6              | 72.5               | 13.4         |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 1.2                     | 2.1         | 1.0        | 15.4             | 61.6               | 18.7         |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 2.3                     | 5.1         | 0.4        | 10.8             | 37.2               | 44.2         |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 2.2                     | 2.4         | 1.2        | 15.5             | 55.3               | 23.3         |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 1.4                     | 2.7         | 0.7        | 11.5             | 63.4               | 20.4         |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 0.9                     | 1.7         | 0.9        | 9.6              | 72.3               | 14.7         |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 1.1                     | 2.8         | 0.4        | 12.1             | 72.9               | 10.6         |
| Independent student income in 1994              |                         |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 3.1                     | 2.7         | 0.0        | 12.9             | 31.0               | 50.4         |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 2.0                     | 6.0         | 0.8        | 16.7             | 31.2               | 43.4         |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 1.2                     | 5.7         | 0.0        | 19.0             | 37.0               | 37.2         |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 3.9                     | 5.3         | 1.4        | 2.4              | 52.8               | 34.2         |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 5.3d—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students with a goal of attaining a bachelor’s degree when they first enrolled, according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence status, by persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|  | Highest degree attained                |             |            | No degree        |                    |              |
|--|--|-------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|  | Certificate                            | Associate’s | Bachelor’s | Still enrolled   |                    | Not enrolled |
|  |  |             |            | Less-than-4-year | 4-year institution |              |
|  | Students with a bachelor’s degree goal |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Total                                      | 1.5                                    | 2.7         | 0.7        | 12.5             | 63.2               | 19.4         |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| None                                       | 0.8                                    | 2.1         | 0.6        | 8.2              | 76.4               | 12.0         |
| One  | 1.9                                    | 3.6         | 1.8        | 19.6             | 50.5               | 22.6         |
| Two or three                               | 3.6                                    | 3.6         | 0.5        | 21.8             | 28.3               | 42.1         |
| Four or more                               | 4.8                                    | 3.9         | 0.0        | 15.4             | 25.6               | 50.4         |
| High school diploma or equivalency status  |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| High school diploma                        | 1.2                                    | 2.5         | 0.8        | 12.3             | 64.1               | 19.1         |
| GED/high school equivalent*                | 5.5                                    | 11.2        | 0.0        | 11.4             | 34.4               | 37.5         |
| None*                                      | —                                      | —           | —          | —                | —                  | —            |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment           |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not delay                              | 1.1                                    | 2.1         | 0.2        | 12.1             | 69.3               | 15.2         |
| Delayed*                                   | 2.2                                    | 5.0         | 2.8        | 12.9             | 41.8               | 35.4         |
| Attendance status when first enrolled      |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Full-time                                  | 1.0                                    | 2.7         | 0.8        | 10.1             | 67.6               | 17.7         |
| Part-time*                                 | 4.1                                    | 2.7         | 0.4        | 26.3             | 38.5               | 28.2         |
| Dependency status when first enrolled      |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Dependent                                  | 1.4                                    | 2.4         | 0.8        | 12.1             | 66.6               | 16.7         |
| Independent*                               | 2.8                                    | 4.9         | 0.6        | 12.9             | 35.2               | 43.6         |
| Number of children when first enrolled     |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| None                                       | 1.4                                    | 2.5         | 0.8        | 12.3             | 65.0               | 18.0         |
| One or more*                               | 4.5                                    | 5.9         | 0.0        | 9.5              | 34.7               | 45.3         |
| Single parent status when first enrolled   |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Not a single parent                        | 1.4                                    | 2.6         | 0.8        | 12.2             | 64.4               | 18.6         |
| Single parent*                             | 4.6                                    | 5.1         | 0.0        | 12.6             | 32.9               | 44.9         |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96              |  |             |            |                  |                    |              |
| Did not work                               | 1.6                                    | 2.3         | 0.6        | 9.6              | 72.5               | 13.4         |
| Worked part time                           | 0.9                                    | 2.4         | 0.9        | 14.9             | 63.4               | 17.5         |
| Worked full time*                          | 3.7                                    | 2.4         | 0.6        | 11.2             | 39.0               | 43.2         |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factor.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Total persistence and attainment rates include students who transferred out of the first institution attended.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

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## **Institutional and Student Characteristics Tables**

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### Section 6: Enrollment and demographic characteristics

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## Enrollment and Demographic Characteristics

### *First Institution Attended*<sup>28</sup>

- In 1995–96, half of all students just beginning their postsecondary education attended 2-year institutions; 41 percent attended 4-year colleges and universities; and 9 percent attended less-than-2-year institutions, most of which provide short-term vocational training (table 6.1a).
- The age that students first began their postsecondary education was strongly related to the level of institution they first attended. Those who were 18 years or younger were far more likely to enroll at the 4-year level (56 percent) than were all older students including 19-year-olds (34 percent), 20- through 23-year-olds (22 percent), and those 24 or older (10 to 11 percent; table 6.1b).
- While men and women were equally likely to enroll at the 4-year level (41 percent), men were more likely to attend 2-year institutions (53 percent versus 48 percent), and women were more likely to attend less-than-2-year institutions (11 percent versus 6 percent; table 6.1b).<sup>29</sup>
- Nearly three-quarters (73 percent) of all 1995–96 beginning students attended public institutions, while 16 percent and 11 percent, respectively, attended private, not-for-profit and private, for-profit institutions (table 6.2a).
- Roughly one-quarter (27 percent) of dependent students from high-income families (\$70,000 or higher) attended private, not-for-profit institutions, compared with 15 percent of dependent students from families with incomes under \$25,000 (table 6.2b).
- Nearly half (46 percent) of all 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students attended public 2-year colleges, while approximately one-quarter (26 percent) attended public 4-year institutions and 15 percent attended private, not-for-profit 4-year institutions. The remainder attended other less-than-4-year institutions, including 7 percent in private, for-profit less-than-2-year institutions (table 6.3a).
- Asian or Pacific Islander students were more likely than Hispanic or black, non-Hispanic students (35 percent versus 22 percent and 21 percent, respectively) to enroll in public 4-year institutions (table 6.3b).
- Black, non-Hispanic students were more likely to attend private, not-for-profit less-than-2-year institutions than were white students (13 percent versus 5 percent; table 6.3b).

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<sup>28</sup>The numbers appearing in these compendium tables will differ slightly from those published in the NCES report 1999–030, *Descriptive Summary of 1996–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students*, because a longitudinal weight based on students enrolled in the base-year and follow-up survey was used. In the former publication, the NPSAS:95–96 cross-sectional weight was used.

<sup>29</sup>Among all beginning students, 54 percent were women. L. Kojaku and A.M. Nuñez, *Descriptive Summary of 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students*, table 3.1.

## ***Gender***

- Among all 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students, 55 percent were women; the same was true among students enrolled at the 4-year level (table 6.4a).
- There was no measurable gender difference among students attending 2-year institutions, in sharp contrast to the gender distribution at less-than-2-year institutions, where over two-thirds (70 percent) of students were women (table 6.4a).
- There was no gender difference among 19-year-olds and 20- through 23-year-olds.<sup>30</sup> The younger and the older age groups were more likely to be women. Women represented 55 percent of those age 18 or younger as well as 60 percent of those 24–29 and 64 percent of students 30 or older (table 6.4b).
- Taking into account parents' education, students whose parents attained lower levels of education (high school or some postsecondary education short of a bachelor's degree) were more likely to be women (57 percent and 58 percent, respectively). In contrast, among students whose parents held either a bachelor's or advanced degree, there was no measurable gender difference (table 6.4b).

## ***Age at First Enrollment***<sup>31</sup>

- When they first enrolled in postsecondary education, a majority of 1995–96 beginning students (58 percent) were 18 or younger, and about one in ten (11 percent) were 30 or older (table 6.5a).
- Age was strongly related to the level of institution students attended. Among those enrolled at the 4-year level, 79 percent were 18 or younger, compared with 48 percent among those at 2-year institutions and 19 percent among those at less-than-2-year institutions (table 6.5a).
- The level of parents' education was also strongly related to the age at which students first began their postsecondary education. Among students whose parents' highest education was high school or less, 46 percent were 18 or younger, compared with 68 percent and 82 percent, respectively, of those whose parents held bachelor's or advanced degrees (table 6.5b).

## ***Race/Ethnicity***

- Beginning students working toward a vocational certificate were more likely to be Hispanic (19 percent) or black, non-Hispanic (18 percent) than those working toward a bachelor's degree (12 percent and 10 percent, respectively). Black, non-Hispanic stu-

<sup>30</sup>It appears as though there is a higher proportion of men than women among 19-year-olds, but there is not enough statistical evidence to draw this conclusion.

<sup>31</sup>The age distribution reported here differs from that reported in the NCES report 1999–030, *Descriptive Summary of 1996–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students*. Students' ages in the earlier publication were reported as of December 31, 1995, which was up to five months after the age of initial enrollment used in this report. Consequently, the percentage of students 18 or younger was much lower (45 percent compared with 58 percent at time of enrollment).

dents also made up a higher proportion of those working toward a vocational certificate than of those working toward an associate's degree, among whom 10 percent were black, non-Hispanic (table 6.6a).

- Students who were 20–23 years old were more likely to be black, non-Hispanic than either those 18 or younger or 30 or older (20 percent compared with 9 percent of both 18-year-olds and students over 30).<sup>32</sup> Similarly, Hispanic students made up a larger proportion of 20- through 23-year-olds (21 percent) than they did in any other age group (11 to 16 percent; table 6.6b).
- Among both dependent and independent students, those in the lowest income quartile were much more likely to be black, non-Hispanic than were those in the highest income quartile (16 percent versus 4 percent of dependent students and 23 percent versus 11 percent of independent students) (table 6.6b).

### ***Marital Status and Children***

- Most of the 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students were unmarried and had no children (81 percent), while about 9 percent were single parents (table 6.7a).
- Due partly to the age variations among students at different level institutions, those in either 2-year or less-than-2-year institutions were much more likely to be single parents (12 percent and 28 percent, respectively) than were students attending 4-year institutions (2 percent; table 6.7a).
- One-quarter of black, non-Hispanic students were single parents, compared with 10 percent of Hispanic students, 7 percent of white students, and 3 percent of Asian/Pacific Islander students (table 6.7b).<sup>33</sup>

### ***Income in 1994***

#### ***Dependent Students' Family Income***

- Among dependent 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students,<sup>34</sup> roughly one in five (22 percent) of those enrolled at the 4-year level had family incomes in lowest income quartile (less than \$25,000), and about one-third (32 percent) were in the highest income quartile (\$70,000 or more). In contrast, just over one-half of dependent students attending less-than-2-year institutions (55 percent) were in the lowest income quartile, and 8 percent were in the highest quartile (table 6.8.a).

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<sup>32</sup>There also appeared to be a higher proportion of black, non-Hispanic students among 24- through 29-year-olds, compared with students 18 or younger, but there was not enough statistical evidence to draw this conclusion.

<sup>33</sup>While it appears as though American Indian/Alaskan Native students were also more likely to be single parents than Hispanic, white, and Asian/Pacific Islander students, the sample size is too small to reach statistical significance.

<sup>34</sup>At 4-year institutions 91 percent of the beginners were dependent, compared with 64 percent at 2-year institutions and 27 percent at less-than-2-year institutions. L. Kojaku and A.M. Nuñez, *Descriptive Summary of 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students*, table 3.2.

- Nearly half (48 percent) of older dependent students (20–23 years) were from families in the lowest income quartile, compared with one-quarter of those 18 or younger (table 6.8.b).
- Compared with about one in five dependent white students (19 percent), nearly half of black, non-Hispanic (47 percent), Hispanic (45 percent), and Asian/Pacific Islander beginning students (46 percent) were in the lowest income quartile (table 6.8b).

### *Independent Students' Income*

- Students who were working while enrolled were asked whether they considered themselves to be primarily students or primarily employees. Among independent students who reported working while they were enrolled in 1995–96, those who identified themselves as students working to meet expenses were about half as likely to be in the highest income quartile (\$25,000 or more) in 1994 than were students who identified themselves primarily as employees who were enrolled in school (20 percent versus 38 percent; table 6.9b).

### *Risk Factors*

The 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students were identified according to the number of characteristics they possessed that were associated with an increased risk of leaving postsecondary education. These risk factors fall into three areas: enrollment, financial and family status, and high school graduation status. The enrollment risk factors include (1) attending on a part-time basis and (2) delaying enrollment a year or more after high school graduation. Family and financial risk factors include (3) being financially independent of parents according to financial aid criteria, (4) working full time while enrolled, (5) having dependents, and (6) being a single parent. The final risk factor is (7) dropping out of high school or completing through alternative means such as a GED or high school equivalent certificate. Students were grouped into four categories of risk: none, one risk factor, two or three risk factors, and four or more. Having no risk factors means a student falls into a category that is commonly referred to as “traditional,” meaning he or she entered postsecondary education immediately after graduating from high school, attended full time, and was financially dependent on parents. By comparison, students having four or more risk factors would be highly nontraditional, that is, at high risk of leaving postsecondary education without attaining.

- Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students, about half (55 percent) were identified as nontraditional, meaning they had one or more risk factors (table 6.10a).
- While most beginning students attending 4-year institutions had no risk factors (75 percent), the opposite was true for those attending 2-year and less-than-2-year institutions. Just 26 percent and 11 percent, respectively, of these students had no risk factors,

while 23 percent and 33 percent, respectively, had four or more risk factors (table 6.10a).

- Due in part to the high risk associated with being single parents (i.e., they have at least three risk factors by definition),<sup>35</sup> women were more likely than men to have four or more risk factors (20 percent versus 11 percent; table 6.10b).
- Nearly 30 percent of black, non-Hispanic students had four or more risk factors, in contrast to 15 percent of white students, 14 percent of Hispanic students, and 13 percent of Asian/Pacific Islander students (table 6.10b).
- About 25 percent of American Indian/Alaskan Native students were also at high risk, with four or more risk factors, but because of small sample sizes, there was not enough statistical evidence to conclude that they were more or less likely than other groups to have four or more risk factors (table 6.10b).
- Asian/Pacific Islander students were more likely than students in all other racial/ethnic groups except white students to have no risk factors (55 percent compared with 27 to 37 percent). White students also were more likely to have no risk factors (49 percent) than Hispanic students (37 percent), black, non-Hispanic students (33 percent), and American Indian/Alaskan Native students (27 percent; table 6.10b).

## **Financial Aid and Working Status**

### ***Financial Aid in 1995–96***

- In 1995–96, 61 percent of beginning students received some form of financial aid, averaging nearly \$5,000. Roughly half (51 percent) received grants, and nearly one-third (31 percent) received student loans (table 7.1a).
- Due in part to their greater likelihood of attending full time and also to the higher tuition, students attending 4-year institutions and those attending less-than-2-year institutions were much more likely to receive financial aid (74 percent and 79 percent, respectively) and received more aid on average (\$6,876 and \$4,214, respectively) than students at the 2-year level (48 percent received an average of \$2,666; table 7.1a).<sup>36</sup>
- Consistent with financial aid policies, low-income dependent students (less than \$25,000) were much more likely to receive financial aid grants (75 percent) than were middle and higher income students (30 to 50 percent; table 7.1b).

### ***Employment Status While Enrolled in 1995–96***

- In 1995–96, when students first began their postsecondary education, nearly one-quarter (24 percent) worked full time while they were enrolled (table 7.2a).

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<sup>35</sup>Being a single parent, having dependents, and being independent.

<sup>36</sup>These estimates include students at some less-than-2-year institutions that are not eligible for federal Title 4 financial aid.

- Due in part to their likelihood of attending part time, students who began at the 2-year level were more likely to work full time (34 percent) than were those who began in either less-than-2-year institutions (23 percent) or 4-year institutions (11 percent; table 7.2a).
- Nearly one-half (49 percent) of students attending less-than-2-year institutions did not work when they first enrolled, compared with 37 percent of students enrolled in 4-year institutions and 20 percent enrolled in 2-year institutions (table 7.2a).
- Three years after they began their postsecondary education, students who had attained a postsecondary degree or certificate and then left postsecondary education were less likely to have worked full time when they first began (24 percent) than were those who left without attaining (39 percent; table 7.2a).
- Men were more likely than women to work full time when they first began their postsecondary education (27 percent versus 21 percent; table 7.2b).

### ***Enrollment Versus Employment (Students' Primary Role)***

- About one-half of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students identified themselves primarily as students working to meet school expenses, compared with about one in five (19 percent) who identified themselves primarily as employees enrolled in school. The remaining 31 percent of beginning students did not work when they first enrolled (table 7.3a).<sup>37</sup>
- Among students in bachelor's degree programs, a small percentage identified themselves primarily as employees enrolled in school (6 percent), compared with one-quarter of those working toward an associate's degree and one-third of those working toward a vocational certificate (table 7.3a).
- How students identified themselves relative to their enrollment and employment closely coincided with age. For example, nearly 60 percent of students 18 years or younger identified themselves as students working to meet expenses, compared with 25 percent of those students ages 24–29 (table 7.3b).

Among students who worked to pay education expenses:

- Roughly one-quarter reported that their work schedule limited their participation in classes. That is, 22 percent reported that work limited their choice of classes, 27 percent reported that work limited the number of classes they could take, and 29 percent reported that their class schedule was limited due to work (table 7.4a).
- Among students who worked part time, 17 to 23 percent reported limitations on their schooling due to work, compared with 43 to 53 percent of students working full time while enrolled (table 7.4b).

<sup>37</sup>The percentage not working (31 percent) differs slightly from that in the previous table (30 percent reported in table 7.2) because of missing responses for the primary role question; thus, the sample is slightly smaller than in table 7.2.

Among students whose primary role was work:

- Most reported being enrolled for personal interest (89 percent) or to learn new job skills (83 percent). Just over three-quarters (78 percent) reported that they were enrolled to earn a degree or certificate (table 7.5a).
- Those attending 4-year institutions were more likely to report being enrolled to advance in their job (46 percent) than were those attending less-than-2-year institutions (32 percent). Correspondingly, students attending less-than-2-year institutions were more likely to report being enrolled to learn new job skills (89 percent) than were those enrolled at the 4-year level (75 percent; table 7.5a).
- Men were more likely than women to report being enrolled for recreation (31 percent versus 21 percent; table 7.5b).

### ***Post-Enrollment Employment***

Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who were no longer enrolled as of 1998:

- Eighty-two percent were currently working, 10 percent were out of the labor force, and 7 percent were looking for work (table 7.6a).
- Black, non-Hispanic students were more likely to report looking for work (14 percent) than were either white or Asian/Pacific Islander students (5 percent and 3 percent, respectively; table 7.6b).
- Dependent students from low-income families (less than \$25,000) were more likely to report looking for work than their counterparts from families with higher incomes (16 percent versus 4 to 6 percent; table 7.6b).
- Similarly, independent low-income students were more likely to report looking for work than their counterparts with incomes of \$15,000 or more (11 percent versus 2 to 3 percent; table 7.6b).

Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who were no longer enrolled as of 1998 and who were working:

- Just over three-quarters (78 percent) were working full time and earning about \$15,000 a year (the median full-time salary was \$14,985) (table 7.7a).
- The median full-time salaries of students who had attained a certificate (\$15,012) or an associate's degree (\$16,577) were not measurably different from those who had left without a degree (\$15,078; table 7.7a).

- Although it appears that in some fields those who did not complete a degree earned higher starting salaries than those who did complete one, the sample sizes are too small to conclude that these salaries actually differed (table 7.10).
- Those who had attained a degree or certificate were much more likely than those who had not attained one to report the following perceived benefits gained from their post-secondary enrollment: a degree or certificate had been required for their job (30 percent versus 7 percent), enrollment enabled them to earn a higher salary (67 percent versus 34 percent), and enrollment had given them the opportunity to increase their job responsibilities (71 percent versus 45 percent; table 7.11).

**Table 6.1a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students, by level of first institution attended, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Level of first institution |        |                  |
|---|----------------------------|--------|------------------|
|   | 4-year                     | 2-year | Less-than-2-year |
| Total                                     | 41.1                       | 50.2   | 8.7              |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |                            |        |                  |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 8.3                        | 49.7   | 42.0             |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 17.3                       | 74.5   | 8.1              |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 61.3                       | 37.7   | 1.0              |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 23.4                       | 66.9   | 9.7              |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                            |        |                  |
| None                                      | 46.7                       | 49.0   | 4.4              |
| Certificate                               | 5.9                        | 45.9   | 48.2             |
| Associate's degree                        | 16.2                       | 83.7   | 0.1              |
| Control of first institution              |                            |        |                  |
| Public                                    | 35.4                       | 62.4   | 2.2              |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 93.5                       | 5.8    | 0.7              |
| Private, for-profit                       | 4.1                        | 32.7   | 63.2             |
| Degree program at first institution       |                            |        |                  |
| Certificate                               | 4.3                        | 49.8   | 45.9             |
| Associate's degree                        | 5.3                        | 94.7   | †                |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 100.0                      | †      | †                |
| Degree goal at first institution          |                            |        |                  |
| None                                      | 20.5                       | 64.4   | 15.1             |
| Certificate                               | 3.3                        | 48.7   | 48.0             |
| Associate's degree                        | 5.4                        | 94.6   | 0.0              |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 75.9                       | 24.1   | 0.0              |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |                            |        |                  |
| Always full-time                          | 55.9                       | 32.1   | 12.0             |
| Mixed                                     | 29.1                       | 67.3   | 3.6              |
| Always part-time                          | 9.6                        | 84.1   | 6.3              |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |                            |        |                  |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 43.0                       | 48.2   | 8.8              |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 31.1                       | 60.9   | 8.1              |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.1b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students, by level of first institution attended, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Level of first institution |        |                  |
|---|----------------------------|--------|------------------|
|   | 4-year                     | 2-year | Less-than-2-year |
| Total   | 41.1                       | 50.2   | 8.7              |
| Gender  |                            |        |                  |
| Male  | 41.0                       | 53.4   | 5.6              |
| Female  | 41.2                       | 47.7   | 11.1             |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                            |        |                  |
| 18 years or younger                             | 55.9                       | 41.3   | 2.8              |
| 19 years  | 34.2                       | 57.1   | 8.6              |
| 20–23 years                                     | 22.4                       | 58.6   | 19.0             |
| 24–29 years                                     | 10.0                       | 74.0   | 16.0             |
| 30 or older                                     | 10.7                       | 64.3   | 25.0             |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                            |        |                  |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 42.5                       | 50.5   | 7.0              |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 34.6                       | 51.0   | 14.4             |
| Hispanic  | 34.6                       | 53.1   | 12.3             |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 53.3                       | 38.3   | 8.4              |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 30.5                       | 50.6   | 18.9             |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                            |        |                  |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 52.3                       | 44.3   | 3.4              |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 17.9                       | 63.6   | 18.5             |
| Single with children                            | 8.9                        | 65.0   | 26.0             |
| Married   | 12.5                       | 65.0   | 22.5             |
| Parental education                              |                            |        |                  |
| High school diploma or less                     | 28.6                       | 58.4   | 13.0             |
| Some postsecondary                              | 37.6                       | 55.6   | 6.8              |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 51.1                       | 45.7   | 3.2              |
| Advanced degree                                 | 73.4                       | 25.1   | 1.4              |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                            |        |                  |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 50.8                       | 35.4   | 13.8             |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 44.6                       | 50.8   | 4.6              |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 16.1                       | 74.6   | 9.3              |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                            |        |                  |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 43.2                       | 49.9   | 7.0              |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 46.0                       | 50.0   | 4.0              |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 53.2                       | 45.6   | 1.2              |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 67.3                       | 31.6   | 1.2              |
| Independent student income in 1994              |                            |        |                  |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 14.1                       | 59.4   | 26.5             |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 11.3                       | 63.4   | 25.3             |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 9.7                        | 75.9   | 14.4             |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 13.4                       | 65.0   | 21.7             |

**Table 6.1b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students, by level of first institution attended, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled  
—Continued**

|   | Level of first institution |        |                  |
|---|----------------------------|--------|------------------|
|   | 4-year                     | 2-year | Less-than-2-year |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |                            |        |                  |
| None  | 69.3                       | 28.6   | 2.1              |
| One   | 31.7                       | 61.4   | 6.9              |
| Two or three                                | 13.7                       | 68.6   | 17.7             |
| Four or more                                | 10.6                       | 72.1   | 17.3             |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment            |                            |        |                  |
| Did not delay                               | 54.0                       | 43.0   | 3.0              |
| Delayed                                     | 21.5                       | 61.5   | 17.0             |
| Dependency status when first enrolled       |                            |        |                  |
| Dependent                                   | 52.3                       | 44.3   | 3.4              |
| Independent                                 | 12.5                       | 64.6   | 22.9             |
| Number of children when first enrolled      |                            |        |                  |
| None  | 47.5                       | 46.7   | 5.8              |
| One or more                                 | 9.9                        | 66.4   | 23.7             |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96               |                            |        |                  |
| Did not work                                | 50.8                       | 35.4   | 13.8             |
| Worked part time                            | 44.9                       | 50.1   | 5.0              |
| Worked full time                            | 19.0                       | 73.2   | 7.9              |

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.2a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by control of first institution attended, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Control of first institution |                            |                        |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
|   | Public                       | Private,<br>not-for-profit | Private,<br>for-profit |
| Total                                     | 73.2                         | 15.8                       | 11.0                   |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |                              |                            |                        |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 45.4                         | 5.1                        | 49.5                   |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 78.0                         | 10.1                       | 11.9                   |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 75.4                         | 22.5                       | 2.1                    |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 79.3                         | 8.9                        | 11.8                   |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                              |                            |                        |
| None                                      | 76.6                         | 17.4                       | 6.0                    |
| Certificate                               | 47.2                         | 3.6                        | 49.3                   |
| Associate's degree                        | 72.6                         | 11.3                       | 16.1                   |
| Level of first institution                |                              |                            |                        |
| 4-year                                    | 63.1                         | 35.8                       | 1.1                    |
| 2-year                                    | 91.0                         | 1.8                        | 7.2                    |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 18.8                         | 1.3                        | 80.0                   |
| Degree program at first institution       |                              |                            |                        |
| Certificate                               | 52.4                         | 3.0                        | 44.6                   |
| Associate's degree                        | 91.3                         | 3.4                        | 5.2                    |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 63.1                         | 36.1                       | 0.8                    |
| Degree goal at first institution          |                              |                            |                        |
| None                                      | 75.1                         | 9.0                        | 16.0                   |
| Certificate                               | 50.8                         | 2.9                        | 46.3                   |
| Associate's degree                        | 88.2                         | 3.9                        | 7.9                    |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 71.7                         | 27.2                       | 1.1                    |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |                              |                            |                        |
| Always full-time                          | 63.4                         | 21.6                       | 15.0                   |
| Mixed                                     | 84.2                         | 10.3                       | 5.5                    |
| Always part-time                          | 89.6                         | 3.6                        | 6.8                    |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |                              |                            |                        |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 72.3                         | 16.6                       | 11.1                   |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 79.7                         | 10.3                       | 10.0                   |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.2b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by control of first institution attended, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Control of first institution |                            |                        |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
|   | Public                       | Private,<br>not-for-profit | Private,<br>for-profit |
| Total   | 73.2                         | 15.8                       | 11.0                   |
| Gender  |                              |                            |                        |
| Male  | 76.9                         | 15.5                       | 7.6                    |
| Female  | 70.3                         | 16.0                       | 13.7                   |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                              |                            |                        |
| 18 years or younger                             | 74.2                         | 21.1                       | 4.7                    |
| 19 years  | 76.4                         | 12.6                       | 11.0                   |
| 20–23 years                                     | 66.3                         | 9.0                        | 24.6                   |
| 24–29 years                                     | 72.9                         | 5.1                        | 22.0                   |
| 30 or older                                     | 71.0                         | 5.4                        | 23.6                   |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                              |                            |                        |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 75.3                         | 16.2                       | 8.5                    |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 68.9                         | 13.1                       | 18.0                   |
| Hispanic  | 68.7                         | 13.6                       | 17.7                   |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 71.6                         | 18.8                       | 9.6                    |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 69.9                         | 9.4                        | 20.7                   |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                              |                            |                        |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 74.9                         | 19.7                       | 5.4                    |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 70.1                         | 8.3                        | 21.6                   |
| Single with children                            | 64.0                         | 3.6                        | 32.4                   |
| Married   | 71.5                         | 6.4                        | 22.1                   |
| Parental education                              |                              |                            |                        |
| High school diploma or less                     | 74.1                         | 10.2                       | 15.8                   |
| Some postsecondary                              | 77.5                         | 13.8                       | 8.7                    |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 77.4                         | 17.5                       | 5.1                    |
| Advanced degree                                 | 64.6                         | 33.3                       | 2.2                    |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                              |                            |                        |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 66.3                         | 18.0                       | 15.7                   |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 75.5                         | 17.6                       | 6.9                    |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 81.8                         | 6.1                        | 12.1                   |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                              |                            |                        |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 74.6                         | 15.1                       | 10.3                   |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 75.7                         | 17.9                       | 6.4                    |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 77.8                         | 19.4                       | 2.8                    |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 71.6                         | 26.6                       | 1.8                    |
| Independent student income in 1994              |                              |                            |                        |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 59.1                         | 8.5                        | 32.5                   |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 67.0                         | 5.1                        | 27.9                   |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 79.2                         | 5.3                        | 15.5                   |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 71.8                         | 5.1                        | 23.1                   |

**Table 6.2b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by control of first institution attended, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled—Continued**

|   | Control of first institution |                            |                        |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
|   | Public                       | Private,<br>not-for-profit | Private,<br>for-profit |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |                              |                            |                        |
| None  | 69.3                         | 27.0                       | 3.8                    |
| One   | 79.1                         | 10.8                       | 10.1                   |
| Two or three                                | 75.4                         | 5.7                        | 19.0                   |
| Four or more                                | 73.7                         | 4.9                        | 21.4                   |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment            |                              |                            |                        |
| Did not delay                               | 74.3                         | 20.5                       | 5.2                    |
| Delayed                                     | 72.0                         | 8.6                        | 19.4                   |
| Dependency status when first enrolled       |                              |                            |                        |
| Dependent                                   | 74.9                         | 19.7                       | 5.4                    |
| Independent                                 | 68.0                         | 6.2                        | 25.8                   |
| Number of children when first enrolled      |                              |                            |                        |
| None  | 74.1                         | 18.2                       | 7.8                    |
| One or more                                 | 68.3                         | 4.4                        | 27.4                   |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96               |                              |                            |                        |
| Did not work                                | 66.3                         | 18.0                       | 15.7                   |
| Worked part time                            | 74.2                         | 18.0                       | 7.8                    |
| Worked full time                            | 82.3                         | 7.2                        | 10.5                   |

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.3a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by level and control of first institution attended, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Type of first institution |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
|   | 4-year                    |                         |                     | 2-year |                         |                     | Less-than-2-year |                     |
|   | Public                    | Private, not-for-profit | Private, for-profit | Public | Private, not-for-profit | Private, for-profit | Public           | Private, for-profit |
| Total                                     | 25.9                      | 14.7                    | 0.5                 | 45.8   | 0.9                     | 3.6                 | 1.6              | 7.0                 |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 5.1                       | 2.4                     | 0.8                 | 33.3   | 2.5                     | 13.9                | 7.0              | 34.8                |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 9.3                       | 7.5                     | 0.5                 | 67.6   | 2.3                     | 4.9                 | 1.3              | 6.6                 |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 38.8                      | 22.1                    | 0.4                 | 36.4   | 0.4                     | 1.0                 | 0.2              | 0.8                 |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 15.2                      | 7.8                     | 0.5                 | 62.0   | 1.0                     | 4.1                 | 2.2              | 7.3                 |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| None                                      | 29.6                      | 16.7                    | 0.4                 | 46.2   | 0.6                     | 2.2                 | 1.0              | 3.4                 |
| Certificate                               | 3.5                       | 2.2                     | 0.3                 | 35.9   | 1.1                     | 9.0                 | 7.9              | 40.1                |
| Associate's degree                        | 8.9                       | 6.0                     | 1.3                 | 63.6   | 5.3                     | 14.8                | 0.1              | 0.0                 |
| Level of first institution                |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| 4-year                                    | 63.1                      | 35.8                    | 1.1                 | †      | †                       | †                   | †                | †                   |
| 2-year                                    | †                         | †                       | †                   | 91.0   | 1.8                     | 7.2                 | †                | †                   |
| Less-than-2-year                          | †                         | †                       | †                   | †      | †                       | †                   | 19.0             | 81.0                |
| Control of first institution              |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| Public                                    | 35.4                      | †                       | †                   | 62.4   | †                       | †                   | 2.2              | †                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | †                         | 94.2                    | †                   | †      | 5.9                     | †                   | †                | †                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | †                         | †                       | 4.1                 | †      | †                       | 32.7                | †                | 63.2                |
| Degree program at first institution       |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| Certificate                               | 2.8                       | 1.6                     | 0.0                 | 41.3   | 0.8                     | 8.0                 | 8.7              | 36.9                |
| Associate's degree                        | 3.3                       | 1.7                     | 0.3                 | 88.1   | 1.8                     | 4.9                 | †                | †                   |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 63.1                      | 36.1                    | 0.8                 | †      | †                       | †                   | †                | †                   |
| Degree goal at first institution          |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| None                                      | 12.8                      | 7.3                     | 0.5                 | 59.2   | 1.4                     | 3.9                 | 3.2              | 11.7                |
| Certificate                               | 2.0                       | 1.3                     | 0.0                 | 38.3   | 1.2                     | 9.4                 | 10.7             | 37.1                |
| Associate's degree                        | 3.2                       | 1.6                     | 0.6                 | 85.0   | 2.3                     | 7.3                 | 0.0              | 0.0                 |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 48.2                      | 27.0                    | 0.7                 | 23.5   | 0.2                     | 0.4                 | 0.0              | 0.0                 |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| Always full-time                          | 35.0                      | 20.4                    | 0.5                 | 26.4   | 1.1                     | 4.7                 | 2.1              | 9.8                 |
| Mixed                                     | 19.2                      | 9.6                     | 0.4                 | 64.1   | 0.7                     | 2.5                 | 0.9              | 2.6                 |
| Always part-time                          | 6.4                       | 2.9                     | 0.3                 | 82.0   | 0.5                     | 1.7                 | 1.4              | 4.8                 |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 26.9                      | 15.7                    | 0.5                 | 43.7   | 0.8                     | 3.7                 | 1.8              | 6.9                 |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 21.7                      | 9.1                     | 0.4                 | 56.8   | 1.1                     | 3.0                 | 1.3              | 6.7                 |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.3b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by level and control of first institution attended, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Type of first institution |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
|   | 4-year                    |                         |                     | 2-year |                         |                     | Less-than-2-year |                     |
|   | Public                    | Private, not-for-profit | Private, for-profit | Public | Private, not-for-profit | Private, for-profit | Public           | Private, for-profit |
| Total   | 25.9                      | 14.7                    | 0.5                 | 45.8   | 0.9                     | 3.6                 | 1.6              | 7.0                 |
| Gender  |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| Male  | 26.0                      | 14.4                    | 0.7                 | 49.6   | 1.0                     | 3.0                 | 1.4              | 4.0                 |
| Female  | 25.8                      | 15.1                    | 0.3                 | 42.7   | 0.9                     | 4.2                 | 1.8              | 9.3                 |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| 18 years or younger                             | 35.3                      | 20.4                    | 0.3                 | 38.4   | 0.7                     | 2.2                 | 0.6              | 2.2                 |
| 19 years  | 22.1                      | 11.5                    | 0.7                 | 52.7   | 1.1                     | 3.4                 | 1.7              | 6.9                 |
| 20–23 years                                     | 14.5                      | 7.1                     | 0.8                 | 50.0   | 1.9                     | 6.8                 | 1.9              | 17.1                |
| 24–29 years                                     | 5.5                       | 4.1                     | 0.4                 | 65.0   | 0.9                     | 8.2                 | 2.5              | 13.4                |
| 30 or older                                     | 6.6                       | 3.6                     | 0.7                 | 58.6   | 1.2                     | 4.9                 | 6.3              | 18.3                |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 27.0                      | 15.3                    | 0.3                 | 46.5   | 0.8                     | 3.2                 | 1.8              | 5.0                 |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 22.0                      | 12.2                    | 0.4                 | 45.3   | 0.7                     | 5.1                 | 1.7              | 12.6                |
| Hispanic  | 21.2                      | 12.3                    | 1.2                 | 46.8   | 1.2                     | 5.3                 | 0.8              | 11.3                |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 35.0                      | 17.5                    | 0.8                 | 35.1   | 1.3                     | 1.9                 | 1.5              | 6.9                 |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 26.0                      | 4.0                     | 0.6                 | 43.4   | 5.0                     | 2.4                 | 0.8              | 17.9                |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 33.0                      | 18.9                    | 0.4                 | 41.2   | 0.8                     | 2.4                 | 0.7              | 2.7                 |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 10.9                      | 6.2                     | 0.8                 | 56.6   | 1.7                     | 5.5                 | 2.8              | 15.4                |
| Single with children                            | 5.5                       | 2.9                     | 0.6                 | 54.2   | 0.5                     | 10.5                | 4.4              | 21.4                |
| Married   | 7.9                       | 4.4                     | 0.3                 | 59.2   | 1.7                     | 4.4                 | 4.7              | 17.5                |
| Parental education                              |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| High school diploma or less                     | 19.2                      | 8.9                     | 0.6                 | 52.7   | 1.1                     | 4.7                 | 2.4              | 10.4                |
| Some postsecondary                              | 24.5                      | 12.7                    | 0.3                 | 51.2   | 1.0                     | 3.4                 | 1.8              | 5.0                 |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 34.1                      | 16.7                    | 0.3                 | 42.7   | 0.7                     | 2.3                 | 0.7              | 2.5                 |
| Advanced degree                                 | 40.3                      | 32.9                    | 0.2                 | 24.1   | 0.4                     | 0.7                 | 0.2              | 1.3                 |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 33.9                      | 16.7                    | 0.3                 | 29.7   | 1.1                     | 4.6                 | 2.8              | 10.8                |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 27.4                      | 16.6                    | 0.6                 | 46.8   | 1.0                     | 3.0                 | 1.3              | 3.3                 |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 10.6                      | 5.1                     | 0.4                 | 69.5   | 0.8                     | 4.4                 | 1.9              | 7.4                 |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                           |                         |                     |        |                         |                     |                  |                     |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 28.4                      | 13.8                    | 0.9                 | 45.0   | 1.2                     | 3.7                 | 1.2              | 5.6                 |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 28.4                      | 17.2                    | 0.4                 | 46.3   | 0.7                     | 3.0                 | 1.0              | 3.1                 |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 34.2                      | 18.8                    | 0.2                 | 43.3   | 0.6                     | 1.8                 | 0.4              | 0.8                 |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 41.1                      | 26.0                    | 0.2                 | 30.2   | 0.7                     | 0.8                 | 0.3              | 0.9                 |

**Table 6.3b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by level and control of first institution attended, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled—Continued**

|   | Type of first institution |                                |                            |        |                                |                            |                  |                            |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
|   | 4-year                    |                                |                            | 2-year |                                |                            | Less-than-2-year |                            |
|   | Public                    | Private,<br>not-for-<br>profit | Private,<br>for-<br>profit | Public | Private,<br>not-for-<br>profit | Private,<br>for-<br>profit | Public           | Private,<br>for-<br>profit |
| Independent student income in 1994          |                           |                                |                            |        |                                |                            |                  |                            |
| Less than \$6,000                           | 7.0                       | 6.6                            | 0.7                        | 49.4   | 1.3                            | 9.1                        | 3.1              | 22.9                       |
| \$6,000–14,999                              | 7.1                       | 3.8                            | 0.3                        | 54.9   | 1.2                            | 7.4                        | 5.1              | 20.2                       |
| \$15,000–24,999                             | 5.8                       | 3.5                            | 0.3                        | 70.2   | 1.7                            | 4.1                        | 3.2              | 11.2                       |
| \$25,000 or greater                         | 9.0                       | 3.6                            | 0.8                        | 57.9   | 0.9                            | 6.6                        | 5.4              | 15.8                       |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |                           |                                |                            |        |                                |                            |                  |                            |
| None  | 42.7                      | 26.2                           | 0.4                        | 26.1   | 0.7                            | 1.8                        | 0.5              | 1.6                        |
| One   | 21.6                      | 9.6                            | 0.5                        | 56.4   | 1.1                            | 4.0                        | 1.2              | 5.6                        |
| Two or three                                | 8.7                       | 4.5                            | 0.6                        | 63.5   | 1.1                            | 4.1                        | 3.3              | 14.2                       |
| Four or more                                | 6.7                       | 3.4                            | 0.5                        | 63.9   | 1.2                            | 7.2                        | 3.3              | 13.7                       |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment            |                           |                                |                            |        |                                |                            |                  |                            |
| Did not delay                               | 33.9                      | 19.8                           | 0.4                        | 39.9   | 0.7                            | 2.4                        | 0.6              | 2.4                        |
| Delayed                                     | 14.0                      | 7.0                            | 0.6                        | 54.7   | 1.4                            | 5.5                        | 3.5              | 13.3                       |
| Dependency status when first enrolled       |                           |                                |                            |        |                                |                            |                  |                            |
| Dependent                                   | 33.0                      | 18.9                           | 0.4                        | 41.2   | 0.8                            | 2.4                        | 0.7              | 2.7                        |
| Independent                                 | 7.5                       | 4.5                            | 0.6                        | 56.5   | 1.3                            | 7.0                        | 4.2              | 18.4                       |
| Number of children when first enrolled      |                           |                                |                            |        |                                |                            |                  |                            |
| None  | 29.9                      | 17.2                           | 0.5                        | 43.1   | 0.9                            | 2.8                        | 1.2              | 4.6                        |
| One or more                                 | 6.5                       | 3.0                            | 0.5                        | 57.9   | 1.0                            | 7.8                        | 4.2              | 19.2                       |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96               |                           |                                |                            |        |                                |                            |                  |                            |
| Did not work                                | 33.9                      | 16.7                           | 0.3                        | 29.7   | 1.1                            | 4.6                        | 2.8              | 10.8                       |
| Worked part time                            | 27.4                      | 17.0                           | 0.5                        | 45.7   | 1.0                            | 3.4                        | 1.1              | 3.8                        |
| Worked full time                            | 12.2                      | 6.1                            | 0.7                        | 68.2   | 1.0                            | 4.1                        | 1.9              | 5.8                        |

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.4a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by gender, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Male | Female |
|---|------|--------|
| Total                                     | 45.5 | 54.5   |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |      |        |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 36.4 | 63.6   |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 50.1 | 49.9   |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 47.1 | 52.9   |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 45.5 | 54.5   |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |      |        |
| None                                      | 46.4 | 53.6   |
| Certificate                               | 37.5 | 62.5   |
| Associate's degree                        | 46.4 | 53.6   |
| Type of first institution                 |      |        |
| 4-year                                    |      |        |
| Public                                    | 45.6 | 54.4   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 44.3 | 55.7   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 64.7 | 35.3   |
| 2-year                                    |      |        |
| Public                                    | 49.2 | 50.8   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 48.2 | 51.8   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 37.0 | 63.0   |
| Less-than-2-year                          |      |        |
| Public                                    | 40.0 | 60.0   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 26.7 | 73.3   |
| Level of first institution                |      |        |
| 4-year                                    | 45.4 | 54.6   |
| 2-year                                    | 48.3 | 51.7   |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 29.7 | 70.3   |
| Control of first institution              |      |        |
| Public                                    | 47.8 | 52.3   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 44.7 | 55.3   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 31.7 | 68.3   |
| Degree program at first institution       |      |        |
| Certificate                               | 36.8 | 63.2   |
| Associate's degree                        | 49.4 | 50.6   |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 45.5 | 54.5   |
| Degree goal at first institution          |      |        |
| None                                      | 43.1 | 56.9   |
| Certificate                               | 37.7 | 62.3   |
| Associate's degree                        | 45.4 | 54.6   |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 47.0 | 53.0   |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |      |        |
| Always full-time                          | 45.9 | 54.1   |
| Mixed                                     | 45.0 | 55.0   |
| Always part-time                          | 45.3 | 54.7   |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |      |        |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 44.6 | 55.4   |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 50.4 | 49.6   |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.4b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by gender, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Male | Female |
|---|------|--------|
| Total   | 45.5 | 54.5   |
| Age when first enrolled                         |      |        |
| 18 years or younger                             | 45.1 | 54.9   |
| 19 years  | 54.4 | 45.6   |
| 20–23 years                                     | 50.7 | 49.3   |
| 24–29 years                                     | 40.2 | 59.8   |
| 30 or older                                     | 36.4 | 63.6   |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |      |        |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 46.2 | 53.8   |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 39.1 | 60.9   |
| Hispanic  | 45.8 | 54.2   |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 48.5 | 51.5   |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 36.8 | 63.3   |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |      |        |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 49.1 | 50.9   |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 49.1 | 50.9   |
| Single with children                            | 19.5 | 80.5   |
| Married   | 38.8 | 61.2   |
| Parental education                              |      |        |
| High school diploma or less                     | 42.8 | 57.3   |
| Some postsecondary                              | 41.7 | 58.3   |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 52.8 | 47.3   |
| Advanced degree                                 | 47.8 | 52.2   |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |      |        |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 41.4 | 58.6   |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 46.9 | 53.1   |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 44.0 | 56.0   |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |      |        |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 47.3 | 52.7   |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 45.8 | 54.2   |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 52.7 | 47.3   |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 51.0 | 49.1   |
| Independent student income in 1994              |      |        |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 32.0 | 68.0   |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 36.1 | 63.9   |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 43.4 | 56.6   |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 33.1 | 66.9   |

**Table 6.4b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by gender, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled—Continued**

|   | Male | Female |
|---|------|--------|
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |      |        |
| None  | 47.1 | 52.9   |
| One   | 48.3 | 51.7   |
| Two or three                                | 50.5 | 49.5   |
| Four or more                                | 31.2 | 68.8   |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment            |      |        |
| Did not delay                               | 46.2 | 53.8   |
| Delayed                                     | 44.9 | 55.1   |
| Dependency status when first enrolled       |      |        |
| Dependent                                   | 49.1 | 50.9   |
| Independent                                 | 34.9 | 65.1   |
| Number of children when first enrolled      |      |        |
| None  | 48.5 | 51.5   |
| One or more                                 | 28.5 | 71.5   |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96               |      |        |
| Did not work                                | 41.4 | 58.6   |
| Worked part time                            | 43.6 | 56.4   |
| Worked full time                            | 51.8 | 48.2   |

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.5a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by age when they began, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | 18 years or younger | 19 years | 20–23 years | 24–29 years | 30 or older |
|---|---------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total                                     | 58.0                | 13.0     | 10.3        | 7.6         | 11.2        |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 26.1                | 12.5     | 17.9        | 20.2        | 23.3        |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 65.9                | 8.2      | 11.8        | 5.5         | 8.6         |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 73.4                | 13.5     | 6.0         | 2.9         | 4.2         |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 42.1                | 12.8     | 14.7        | 11.2        | 19.3        |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                     |          |             |             |             |
| None                                      | 61.5                | 13.3     | 9.3         | 6.1         | 9.8         |
| Certificate                               | 24.5                | 10.3     | 18.7        | 21.5        | 25.1        |
| Associate's degree                        | 69.1                | 12.9     | 8.0         | 4.0         | 6.0         |
| Type of first institution                 |                     |          |             |             |             |
| 4-year                                    |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Public                                    | 78.8                | 11.0     | 5.8         | 1.6         | 2.8         |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 80.1                | 10.1     | 5.0         | 2.1         | 2.7         |
| Private, for-profit                       | 42.0                | 18.6     | 17.2        | 6.4         | 15.8        |
| 2-year                                    |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Public                                    | 48.7                | 15.0     | 11.3        | 10.8        | 14.3        |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 41.1                | 15.4     | 21.5        | 7.3         | 14.8        |
| Private, for-profit                       | 35.8                | 12.2     | 19.5        | 17.4        | 15.1        |
| Less-than-2-year                          |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Public                                    | 20.7                | 13.3     | 11.8        | 11.6        | 42.6        |
| Private, for-profit                       | 18.1                | 12.9     | 25.4        | 14.5        | 29.2        |
| Level of first institution                |                     |          |             |             |             |
| 4-year                                    | 78.8                | 10.8     | 5.6         | 1.8         | 2.9         |
| 2-year                                    | 47.7                | 14.8     | 12.1        | 11.2        | 14.3        |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 18.6                | 12.9     | 22.5        | 13.9        | 32.1        |
| Control of first institution              |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Public                                    | 58.7                | 13.5     | 9.4         | 7.5         | 10.9        |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 77.4                | 10.4     | 5.9         | 2.4         | 3.8         |
| Private, for-profit                       | 24.8                | 12.9     | 23.1        | 15.1        | 24.0        |
| Degree program at first institution       |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Certificate                               | 23.1                | 11.8     | 18.5        | 19.1        | 27.5        |
| Associate's degree                        | 53.4                | 15.5     | 11.4        | 7.8         | 12.0        |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 80.5                | 10.7     | 5.1         | 1.6         | 2.2         |
| Degree goal at first institution          |                     |          |             |             |             |
| None                                      | 42.9                | 14.0     | 11.2        | 7.7         | 24.1        |
| Certificate                               | 21.4                | 13.0     | 16.1        | 22.0        | 27.5        |
| Associate's degree                        | 50.4                | 13.1     | 13.8        | 10.4        | 12.3        |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 75.2                | 13.1     | 6.1         | 2.4         | 3.3         |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Always full-time                          | 67.0                | 12.5     | 8.6         | 4.8         | 7.0         |
| Mixed                                     | 58.8                | 15.2     | 11.6        | 6.8         | 7.7         |
| Always part-time                          | 20.6                | 9.6      | 14.8        | 19.8        | 35.2        |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 58.7                | 12.1     | 8.9         | 8.3         | 12.2        |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 52.8                | 17.2     | 18.4        | 4.3         | 7.3         |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.5b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by age when they began, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | 18 years or younger | 19 years | 20–23 years | 24–29 years | 30 or older |
|---|---------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total   | 58.0                | 13.0     | 10.3        | 7.6         | 11.2        |
| Gender  |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Male  | 57.5                | 15.5     | 11.4        | 6.7         | 9.0         |
| Female  | 58.4                | 10.9     | 9.3         | 8.3         | 13.1        |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                     |          |             |             |             |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 61.2                | 12.1     | 7.5         | 7.0         | 12.3        |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 46.4                | 13.0     | 18.4        | 13.3        | 9.0         |
| Hispanic  | 55.0                | 14.7     | 15.2        | 5.8         | 9.3         |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 57.1                | 14.1     | 12.5        | 9.2         | 7.2         |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 32.2                | 20.0     | 20.7        | 7.8         | 19.3        |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 76.9                | 15.5     | 7.6         | 0.0         | 0.0         |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 14.3                | 6.2      | 16.0        | 34.6        | 28.9        |
| Single with children                            | 13.2                | 8.9      | 25.9        | 25.9        | 26.2        |
| Married   | 2.5                 | 2.5      | 12.3        | 26.4        | 56.4        |
| Parental education                              |                     |          |             |             |             |
| High school diploma or less                     | 45.7                | 11.6     | 13.2        | 10.6        | 19.0        |
| Some postsecondary                              | 61.7                | 16.1     | 10.0        | 8.8         | 3.4         |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 68.4                | 17.4     | 7.5         | 3.6         | 3.1         |
| Advanced degree                                 | 81.9                | 9.5      | 4.4         | 1.9         | 2.3         |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 58.0                | 11.0     | 10.1        | 6.3         | 14.7        |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 69.0                | 15.6     | 8.0         | 4.0         | 3.5         |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 27.9                | 13.2     | 14.8        | 20.1        | 24.1        |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 67.8                | 18.4     | 13.8        | †           | †           |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 77.0                | 15.9     | 7.1         | †           | †           |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 78.5                | 16.6     | 5.0         | †           | †           |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 85.1                | 10.8     | 4.1         | †           | †           |
| Independent student income in 1994              |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 22.8                | 15.0     | 20.9        | 15.0        | 26.3        |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 4.8                 | 5.1      | 22.2        | 35.9        | 32.0        |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 2.0                 | 1.5      | 14.1        | 43.8        | 38.6        |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 0.5                 | 0.7      | 8.1         | 19.8        | 71.0        |

**Table 6.5b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by age when they began, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled—Continued**

|   | 18 years or younger | 19 years | 20–23 years | 24–29 years | 30 or older |
|---|---------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |                     |          |             |             |             |
| None  | 87.3                | 11.2     | 1.5         | 0.0         | 0.0         |
| One   | 67.6                | 20.7     | 10.1        | 0.5         | 1.2         |
| Two or three                                | 27.8                | 14.7     | 23.3        | 12.5        | 21.7        |
| Four or more                                | 5.9                 | 6.7      | 17.9        | 32.4        | 37.2        |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment            |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Did not delay                               | 89.9                | 10.1     | 0.1         | 0.0         | 0.0         |
| Delayed                                     | 5.2                 | 18.5     | 27.4        | 19.9        | 29.0        |
| Dependency status when first enrolled       |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Dependent                                   | 76.9                | 15.5     | 7.6         | 0.0         | 0.0         |
| Independent                                 | 7.9                 | 5.9      | 17.0        | 29.4        | 39.8        |
| Number of children when first enrolled      |                     |          |             |             |             |
| None  | 68.0                | 14.0     | 8.7         | 4.0         | 5.2         |
| One or more                                 | 8.4                 | 6.5      | 19.6        | 27.4        | 38.2        |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96               |                     |          |             |             |             |
| Did not work                                | 58.0                | 11.0     | 10.1        | 6.3         | 14.7        |
| Worked part time                            | 69.9                | 14.9     | 7.0         | 3.3         | 4.9         |
| Worked full time                            | 30.9                | 13.2     | 16.8        | 18.7        | 20.5        |

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

†Students over 23 are independent by definition.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.6a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by race/ethnicity, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | White,<br>non-<br>Hispanic | Black,<br>non-<br>Hispanic | Hispanic | Asian/<br>Pacific<br>Islander | American<br>Indian/<br>Alaskan Native |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Total                                     | 68.9                       | 11.5                       | 14.1     | 4.6                           | 0.9                                   |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 67.2                       | 13.9                       | 16.3     | 2.1                           | 0.5                                   |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 68.9                       | 14.5                       | 13.2     | 3.1                           | 0.3                                   |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 70.8                       | 8.8                        | 13.9     | 5.7                           | 0.8                                   |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 66.9                       | 14.3                       | 13.7     | 4.0                           | 1.2                                   |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| None                                      | 69.2                       | 11.0                       | 13.8     | 5.0                           | 0.9                                   |
| Certificate                               | 62.7                       | 16.8                       | 17.5     | 2.5                           | 0.5                                   |
| Associate's degree                        | 77.5                       | 8.9                        | 10.0     | 3.1                           | 0.5                                   |
| Type of first institution                 |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| 4-year                                    |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Public                                    | 71.6                       | 9.7                        | 11.5     | 6.3                           | 0.9                                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 72.5                       | 9.7                        | 12.0     | 5.6                           | 0.2                                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 42.3                       | 9.5                        | 38.4     | 8.7                           | 1.1                                   |
| 2-year                                    |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Public                                    | 69.9                       | 11.4                       | 14.4     | 3.6                           | 0.8                                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 61.9                       | 9.2                        | 17.7     | 6.5                           | 4.7                                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 60.7                       | 16.0                       | 20.4     | 2.4                           | 0.6                                   |
| Less-than-2-year                          |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Public                                    | 76.9                       | 11.7                       | 6.8      | 4.2                           | 0.4                                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 49.6                       | 20.7                       | 22.9     | 4.6                           | 2.2                                   |
| Level of first institution                |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| 4-year                                    | 71.6                       | 9.7                        | 12.0     | 6.0                           | 0.6                                   |
| 2-year                                    | 69.1                       | 11.6                       | 14.9     | 3.5                           | 0.9                                   |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 54.9                       | 19.0                       | 19.9     | 4.4                           | 1.9                                   |
| Control of first institution              |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Public                                    | 70.7                       | 10.8                       | 13.2     | 4.5                           | 0.8                                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 71.8                       | 9.7                        | 12.4     | 5.6                           | 0.5                                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 53.0                       | 18.7                       | 22.7     | 4.0                           | 1.6                                   |
| Degree program at first institution       |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Certificate                               | 59.0                       | 18.0                       | 18.7     | 3.2                           | 1.2                                   |
| Associate's degree                        | 70.7                       | 10.2                       | 14.5     | 3.8                           | 0.9                                   |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 71.8                       | 9.7                        | 11.5     | 6.4                           | 0.7                                   |
| Degree goal at first institution          |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| None                                      | 71.7                       | 11.2                       | 14.8     | 1.7                           | 0.6                                   |
| Certificate                               | 60.4                       | 16.8                       | 19.7     | 2.5                           | 0.7                                   |
| Associate's degree                        | 71.0                       | 12.0                       | 12.0     | 4.3                           | 0.6                                   |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 68.6                       | 10.9                       | 13.4     | 6.3                           | 0.9                                   |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Always full-time                          | 71.2                       | 10.7                       | 13.0     | 4.4                           | 0.9                                   |
| Mixed                                     | 65.3                       | 13.0                       | 15.3     | 5.5                           | 0.8                                   |
| Always part-time                          | 68.4                       | 11.3                       | 15.7     | 3.5                           | 1.2                                   |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 69.2                       | 11.2                       | 14.0     | 4.8                           | 0.9                                   |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 67.9                       | 12.8                       | 14.7     | 3.7                           | 0.9                                   |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.6b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by race/ethnicity, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | White,<br>non-<br>Hispanic | Black,<br>non-<br>Hispanic | Hispanic | Asian/<br>Pacific<br>Islander | American<br>Indian/<br>Alaskan Native |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Total   | 68.9                       | 11.5                       | 14.1     | 4.6                           | 0.9                                   |
| Gender  |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Male  | 70.1                       | 9.9                        | 14.3     | 5.0                           | 0.7                                   |
| Female  | 67.8                       | 12.8                       | 14.1     | 4.4                           | 1.0                                   |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| 18 years or younger                             | 72.5                       | 9.2                        | 13.3     | 4.6                           | 0.5                                   |
| 19 years  | 65.5                       | 11.8                       | 16.2     | 5.1                           | 1.4                                   |
| 20–23 years                                     | 50.8                       | 20.8                       | 21.0     | 5.7                           | 1.8                                   |
| 24–29 years                                     | 62.8                       | 20.0                       | 10.8     | 5.6                           | 0.9                                   |
| 30 or older                                     | 74.8                       | 9.2                        | 11.6     | 3.0                           | 1.5                                   |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 70.6                       | 9.2                        | 14.4     | 5.0                           | 0.7                                   |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 72.8                       | 8.6                        | 12.6     | 5.4                           | 0.6                                   |
| Single with children                            | 49.8                       | 31.0                       | 15.8     | 1.3                           | 2.0                                   |
| Married   | 74.8                       | 9.5                        | 10.4     | 3.9                           | 1.4                                   |
| Parental education                              |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| High school diploma or less                     | 61.1                       | 13.2                       | 20.5     | 4.5                           | 0.7                                   |
| Some postsecondary                              | 72.9                       | 13.7                       | 9.8      | 2.7                           | 0.9                                   |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 75.6                       | 11.0                       | 7.4      | 5.8                           | 0.3                                   |
| Advanced degree                                 | 81.6                       | 5.1                        | 5.5      | 6.0                           | 1.8                                   |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 65.3                       | 12.8                       | 14.6     | 6.7                           | 0.6                                   |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 70.9                       | 10.5                       | 13.2     | 4.5                           | 0.9                                   |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 69.1                       | 14.7                       | 13.2     | 2.1                           | 1.0                                   |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 49.8                       | 16.4                       | 24.2     | 8.7                           | 1.0                                   |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 70.9                       | 9.9                        | 14.9     | 3.9                           | 0.4                                   |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 81.7                       | 6.1                        | 8.9      | 2.9                           | 0.5                                   |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 81.6                       | 3.9                        | 9.1      | 4.4                           | 0.9                                   |
| Independent student income in 1994              |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 56.7                       | 23.3                       | 15.7     | 2.3                           | 2.1                                   |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 68.5                       | 17.3                       | 9.8      | 3.6                           | 0.8                                   |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 65.4                       | 15.8                       | 13.1     | 5.3                           | 0.5                                   |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 73.0                       | 11.5                       | 10.9     | 2.6                           | 2.1                                   |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled*     |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| None  | 74.4                       | 8.1                        | 11.3     | 5.6                           | 0.5                                   |
| One   | 66.4                       | 10.6                       | 18.0     | 4.3                           | 0.8                                   |
| Two or three                                    | 65.6                       | 11.8                       | 17.6     | 3.5                           | 1.5                                   |
| Four or more                                    | 62.9                       | 20.4                       | 11.7     | 3.6                           | 1.4                                   |

**Table 6.6b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by race/ethnicity, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled—Continued**

|  | White,<br>non-<br>Hispanic | Black,<br>non-<br>Hispanic | Hispanic | Asian/<br>Pacific<br>Islander | American<br>Indian/<br>Alaskan Native |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment       |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Did not delay                          | 72.0                       | 9.0                        | 13.9     | 4.5                           | 0.6                                   |
| Delayed                                | 64.8                       | 14.5                       | 14.4     | 4.9                           | 1.3                                   |
| Dependency status when first enrolled  |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Dependent                              | 70.6                       | 9.2                        | 14.4     | 5.0                           | 0.7                                   |
| Independent                            | 65.7                       | 17.1                       | 12.2     | 3.6                           | 1.4                                   |
| Number of children when first enrolled |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| None                                   | 71.2                       | 9.1                        | 14.0     | 5.1                           | 0.7                                   |
| One or more                            | 59.1                       | 22.6                       | 14.4     | 2.0                           | 1.9                                   |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96          |                            |                            |          |                               |                                       |
| Did not work                           | 65.3                       | 12.8                       | 14.6     | 6.7                           | 0.6                                   |
| Worked part time                       | 70.6                       | 10.5                       | 14.0     | 3.9                           | 1.0                                   |
| Worked full time                       | 69.3                       | 12.7                       | 13.6     | 3.7                           | 0.6                                   |

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.7a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by marital and parental status when they first began, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Single, no children | Single with children | Married with children | Married, no children |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Total                                     | 80.7                | 9.1                  | 6.4                   | 3.9                  |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 56.6                | 19.3                 | 13.6                  | 10.5                 |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 83.5                | 13.3                 | 2.2                   | 1.0                  |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 92.5                | 3.9                  | 2.2                   | 1.5                  |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 69.1                | 13.2                 | 11.6                  | 6.1                  |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| None                                      | 83.6                | 7.5                  | 5.7                   | 3.2                  |
| Certificate                               | 54.1                | 21.6                 | 14.2                  | 10.1                 |
| Associate's degree                        | 86.3                | 8.9                  | 2.4                   | 2.4                  |
| Type of first institution                 |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| 4-year                                    |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| Public                                    | 95.0                | 1.9                  | 1.9                   | 1.2                  |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 95.3                | 1.7                  | 1.4                   | 1.6                  |
| Private, for-profit                       | 81.1                | 11.5                 | 4.3                   | 3.1                  |
| 2-year                                    |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| Public                                    | 75.8                | 10.8                 | 8.9                   | 4.5                  |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 76.4                | 5.2                  | 11.0                  | 7.4                  |
| Private, for-profit                       | 60.4                | 26.9                 | 7.2                   | 5.5                  |
| Less-than-2-year                          |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| Public                                    | 45.7                | 24.5                 | 15.3                  | 14.5                 |
| Private, for-profit                       | 45.3                | 28.4                 | 15.0                  | 11.3                 |
| Level of first institution                |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| 4-year                                    | 95.0                | 1.9                  | 1.7                   | 1.4                  |
| 2-year                                    | 74.7                | 11.8                 | 8.8                   | 4.7                  |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 45.4                | 27.5                 | 15.3                  | 11.8                 |
| Control of first institution              |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| Public                                    | 82.0                | 7.9                  | 6.5                   | 3.5                  |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 93.8                | 2.0                  | 2.2                   | 2.0                  |
| Private, for-profit                       | 51.8                | 27.2                 | 12.0                  | 9.0                  |
| Degree program at first institution       |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| Certificate                               | 48.0                | 26.0                 | 15.9                  | 10.1                 |
| Associate's degree                        | 81.0                | 8.4                  | 6.9                   | 3.8                  |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 96.1                | 1.6                  | 1.4                   | 1.0                  |
| Degree goal at first institution          |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| None                                      | 68.7                | 12.8                 | 10.9                  | 7.6                  |
| Certificate                               | 49.7                | 23.4                 | 16.5                  | 10.5                 |
| Associate's degree                        | 75.3                | 12.7                 | 7.9                   | 4.1                  |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 94.2                | 2.6                  | 1.9                   | 1.3                  |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| Always full-time                          | 86.3                | 7.5                  | 3.6                   | 2.7                  |
| Mixed                                     | 82.8                | 8.8                  | 4.7                   | 3.7                  |
| Always part-time                          | 54.0                | 15.6                 | 21.2                  | 9.2                  |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 80.4                | 8.6                  | 6.9                   | 4.0                  |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 81.8                | 11.2                 | 3.9                   | 3.1                  |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.7b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by marital and parental status when they first began, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Single, no children | Single with children | Married with children | Married, no children |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Total                                       | 80.7                | 9.1                  | 6.4                   | 3.9                  |
| Gender                                      |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| Male  | 87.3                | 3.9                  | 5.8                   | 3.0                  |
| Female                                      | 75.1                | 13.4                 | 6.9                   | 4.7                  |
| Age when first enrolled                     |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| 18 years or younger                         | 97.5                | 2.0                  | 0.2                   | 0.3                  |
| 19 years                                    | 91.7                | 6.3                  | 1.5                   | 0.5                  |
| 20–23 years                                 | 65.3                | 22.6                 | 6.6                   | 5.5                  |
| 24–29 years                                 | 33.7                | 30.7                 | 24.8                  | 10.9                 |
| 30 or older                                 | 20.9                | 22.9                 | 34.2                  | 22.0                 |
| Race/ethnicity                              |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| White, non-Hispanic                         | 82.3                | 6.6                  | 6.7                   | 4.5                  |
| Black, non-Hispanic                         | 65.9                | 25.3                 | 6.2                   | 2.7                  |
| Hispanic                                    | 82.0                | 10.3                 | 5.7                   | 2.0                  |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                      | 88.5                | 2.6                  | 4.3                   | 4.6                  |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native              | 63.1                | 21.0                 | 12.0                  | 3.9                  |
| Parental education                          |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| High school diploma or less                 | 72.0                | 12.6                 | 9.9                   | 5.5                  |
| Some postsecondary                          | 83.8                | 9.6                  | 4.3                   | 2.3                  |
| Bachelor's degree                           | 91.6                | 5.1                  | 1.4                   | 1.9                  |
| Advanced degree                             | 94.8                | 2.7                  | 1.3                   | 1.2                  |
| Student/employee role 1995–96               |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| Did not work while enrolled                 | 78.0                | 11.0                 | 5.5                   | 5.5                  |
| Student working to meet expenses            | 90.3                | 5.0                  | 3.1                   | 1.6                  |
| Employee who is enrolled                    | 59.0                | 17.4                 | 16.1                  | 7.5                  |
| Dependent family income in 1994             |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| Less than \$25,000                          | 100.0               | †                    | †                     | †                    |
| \$25,000–44,999                             | 100.0               | †                    | †                     | †                    |
| \$45,000–69,999                             | 100.0               | †                    | †                     | †                    |
| \$70,000 or greater                         | 100.0               | †                    | †                     | †                    |
| Independent student income in 1994          |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| Less than \$6,000                           | 33.1                | 54.9                 | 7.4                   | 4.7                  |
| \$6,000–14,999                              | 32.8                | 41.6                 | 17.1                  | 8.5                  |
| \$15,000–24,999                             | 27.8                | 29.8                 | 27.5                  | 14.8                 |
| \$25,000 or greater                         | 7.2                 | 11.5                 | 48.3                  | 33.0                 |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| None  | 100.0               | 0.0                  | 0.0                   | 0.0                  |
| One   | 99.0                | 0.0                  | 0.0                   | 1.0                  |
| Two or three                                | 68.6                | 7.7                  | 10.3                  | 13.3                 |
| Four or more                                | 17.9                | 47.4                 | 27.8                  | 7.0                  |

**Table 6.7b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by marital and parental status when they first began, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled—Continued**

|                                  | Single, no children | Single with children | Married with children | Married, no children |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| Did not delay                    | 97.6                | 2.0                  | 0.2                   | 0.2                  |
| Delayed                          | 53.3                | 20.2                 | 16.5                  | 10.0                 |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96    |                     |                      |                       |                      |
| Did not work                     | 78.0                | 11.0                 | 5.5                   | 5.5                  |
| Worked part time                 | 89.0                | 5.4                  | 3.0                   | 2.7                  |
| Worked full time                 | 65.0                | 14.4                 | 15.5                  | 5.2                  |

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

†Married students and students with children are independent by definition.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.8a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by family income in 1994, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Dependent family income in 1994 |                     |                     |                        |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
|   | Less than<br>\$25,000           | \$25,000–<br>44,999 | \$45,000–<br>69,999 | \$70,000 or<br>greater |
| Total                                     | 26.7                            | 24.2                | 24.2                | 24.8                   |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |                                 |                     |                     |                        |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 38.1                            | 29.7                | 17.9                | 14.3                   |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 33.0                            | 21.4                | 26.2                | 19.4                   |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 23.1                            | 23.0                | 24.0                | 30.0                   |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 32.1                            | 26.1                | 26.6                | 15.2                   |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                                 |                     |                     |                        |
| None                                      | 25.6                            | 23.9                | 24.6                | 25.9                   |
| Certificate                               | 41.4                            | 29.5                | 17.6                | 11.5                   |
| Associate's degree                        | 30.7                            | 24.6                | 24.5                | 20.2                   |
| Type of first institution                 |                                 |                     |                     |                        |
| 4-year                                    |                                 |                     |                     |                        |
| Public                                    | 23.0                            | 20.9                | 25.1                | 31.0                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 19.6                            | 22.0                | 24.2                | 34.2                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 58.8                            | 19.9                | 10.9                | 10.3                   |
| 2-year                                    |                                 |                     |                     |                        |
| Public                                    | 29.2                            | 27.2                | 25.5                | 18.2                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 41.2                            | 21.5                | 16.8                | 20.6                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 42.5                            | 30.9                | 18.4                | 8.3                    |
| Less-than-2-year                          |                                 |                     |                     |                        |
| Public                                    | 45.3                            | 31.6                | 13.4                | 9.6                    |
| Private, for-profit                       | 56.6                            | 27.9                | 7.4                 | 8.2                    |
| Level of first institution                |                                 |                     |                     |                        |
| 4-year                                    | 22.1                            | 21.3                | 24.7                | 32.0                   |
| 2-year                                    | 30.1                            | 27.3                | 24.9                | 17.7                   |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 54.5                            | 28.5                | 8.6                 | 8.4                    |
| Control of first institution              |                                 |                     |                     |                        |
| Public                                    | 26.6                            | 24.4                | 25.2                | 23.7                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 20.6                            | 22.0                | 23.9                | 33.6                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 50.7                            | 28.5                | 12.4                | 8.4                    |
| Degree program at first institution       |                                 |                     |                     |                        |
| Certificate                               | 45.5                            | 26.6                | 15.8                | 12.1                   |
| Associate's degree                        | 29.2                            | 27.8                | 25.2                | 17.9                   |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 21.3                            | 20.7                | 25.0                | 33.1                   |
| Degree goal at first institution          |                                 |                     |                     |                        |
| None                                      | 23.6                            | 28.6                | 31.1                | 16.7                   |
| Certificate                               | 42.8                            | 31.6                | 17.2                | 8.4                    |
| Associate's degree                        | 31.9                            | 26.7                | 25.4                | 16.0                   |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 22.8                            | 22.7                | 24.4                | 30.0                   |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |                                 |                     |                     |                        |
| Always full-time                          | 26.2                            | 22.6                | 23.6                | 27.5                   |
| Mixed                                     | 27.1                            | 26.5                | 25.5                | 20.9                   |
| Always part-time                          | 30.8                            | 25.7                | 25.5                | 18.0                   |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |                                 |                     |                     |                        |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 26.2                            | 23.4                | 24.2                | 26.2                   |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 29.9                            | 27.7                | 25.4                | 17.0                   |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.8b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by family income in 1994, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Dependent family income in 1994 |                 |                 |                     |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
|   | Less than \$25,000              | \$25,000–44,999 | \$45,000–69,999 | \$70,000 or greater |
| Total                                       | 26.7                            | 24.2            | 24.2            | 24.8                |
| Gender                                      |                                 |                 |                 |                     |
| Male  | 25.8                            | 22.5            | 26.0            | 25.8                |
| Female                                      | 27.7                            | 25.8            | 22.6            | 24.0                |
| Age when first enrolled                     |                                 |                 |                 |                     |
| 18 years or younger                         | 23.6                            | 24.1            | 24.8            | 27.5                |
| 19 years                                    | 31.9                            | 24.8            | 25.9            | 17.4                |
| 20–23 years                                 | 48.4                            | 22.5            | 15.8            | 13.4                |
| Race/ethnicity                              |                                 |                 |                 |                     |
| White, non-Hispanic                         | 18.8                            | 24.3            | 28.3            | 28.7                |
| Black, non-Hispanic                         | 47.2                            | 26.0            | 16.2            | 10.6                |
| Hispanic                                    | 44.5                            | 25.0            | 15.0            | 15.6                |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                      | 45.7                            | 18.7            | 13.8            | 21.8                |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native              | 36.2                            | 12.7            | 17.9            | 33.2                |
| Parental education                          |                                 |                 |                 |                     |
| High school diploma or less                 | 41.2                            | 26.5            | 22.0            | 10.3                |
| Some postsecondary                          | 24.1                            | 28.8            | 29.1            | 18.0                |
| Bachelor's degree                           | 19.9                            | 24.2            | 26.0            | 29.9                |
| Advanced degree                             | 8.3                             | 14.2            | 23.4            | 54.0                |
| Student/employee role 1995–96               |                                 |                 |                 |                     |
| Did not work while enrolled                 | 28.9                            | 18.9            | 21.9            | 30.4                |
| Student working to meet expenses            | 23.8                            | 26.6            | 27.5            | 22.1                |
| Employee who is enrolled                    | 27.3                            | 29.1            | 25.7            | 18.0                |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |                                 |                 |                 |                     |
| None  | 23.7                            | 22.1            | 25.5            | 28.8                |
| One   | 31.1                            | 28.8            | 21.8            | 18.4                |
| Two or three                                | 32.8                            | 25.5            | 22.9            | 18.9                |
| Four or more                                | —                               | —               | —               | —                   |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment            |                                 |                 |                 |                     |
| Did not delay                               | 24.2                            | 24.0            | 24.9            | 26.9                |
| Delayed                                     | 37.9                            | 24.6            | 21.0            | 16.5                |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96               |                                 |                 |                 |                     |
| Did not work                                | 28.9                            | 18.9            | 21.9            | 30.4                |
| Worked part time                            | 25.1                            | 26.1            | 26.9            | 21.9                |
| Worked full time                            | 25.4                            | 29.9            | 24.9            | 19.8                |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.9a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by student income in 1994, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Independent student income in 1994 |                    |                     |                        |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
|   | Less than<br>\$6,000               | \$6,000–<br>14,999 | \$15,000–<br>24,999 | \$25,000<br>or greater |
| Total                                     | 25.2                               | 25.8               | 24.2                | 24.8                   |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |                                    |                    |                     |                        |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 22.4                               | 29.3               | 29.4                | 19.0                   |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 37.1                               | 15.6               | 32.2                | 15.2                   |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 26.7                               | 28.0               | 22.4                | 22.9                   |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 25.1                               | 23.9               | 22.3                | 28.7                   |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                                    |                    |                     |                        |
| None                                      | 25.5                               | 25.2               | 22.3                | 27.0                   |
| Certificate                               | 23.9                               | 26.0               | 31.5                | 18.7                   |
| Associate's degree                        | 26.7                               | 36.6               | 19.1                | 17.6                   |
| Type of first institution                 |                                    |                    |                     |                        |
| 4-year                                    |                                    |                    |                     |                        |
| Public                                    | 24.2                               | 25.6               | 19.6                | 30.6                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 37.7                               | 22.6               | 19.2                | 20.5                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | —                                  | —                  | —                   | —                      |
| 2-year                                    |                                    |                    |                     |                        |
| Public                                    | 21.4                               | 24.5               | 29.4                | 24.7                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 25.7                               | 23.8               | 33.0                | 17.6                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 33.6                               | 28.1               | 14.4                | 23.9                   |
| Less-than-2-year                          |                                    |                    |                     |                        |
| Public                                    | 18.6                               | 31.0               | 18.6                | 31.8                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 32.8                               | 29.6               | 15.4                | 22.2                   |
| Level of first institution                |                                    |                    |                     |                        |
| 4-year                                    | 29.4                               | 24.0               | 19.3                | 27.3                   |
| 2-year                                    | 22.8                               | 24.8               | 27.9                | 24.5                   |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 30.3                               | 29.6               | 15.8                | 24.3                   |
| Control of first institution              |                                    |                    |                     |                        |
| Public                                    | 21.6                               | 25.0               | 27.7                | 25.7                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 35.8                               | 22.1               | 21.3                | 20.9                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 33.0                               | 28.9               | 15.1                | 23.0                   |
| Degree program at first institution       |                                    |                    |                     |                        |
| Certificate                               | 23.1                               | 25.6               | 26.6                | 24.8                   |
| Associate's degree                        | 26.7                               | 26.8               | 22.5                | 24.0                   |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 29.0                               | 21.6               | 20.7                | 28.8                   |
| Degree goal at first institution          |                                    |                    |                     |                        |
| None                                      | 27.0                               | 23.7               | 20.1                | 29.2                   |
| Certificate                               | 21.1                               | 28.5               | 27.9                | 22.5                   |
| Associate's degree                        | 24.8                               | 25.1               | 22.9                | 27.3                   |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 31.1                               | 26.5               | 17.2                | 25.2                   |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |                                    |                    |                     |                        |
| Always full-time                          | 34.1                               | 29.0               | 17.3                | 19.6                   |
| Mixed                                     | 29.9                               | 29.1               | 25.6                | 15.4                   |
| Always part-time                          | 11.9                               | 19.5               | 31.4                | 37.2                   |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |                                    |                    |                     |                        |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 23.8                               | 25.4               | 25.0                | 25.7                   |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 33.7                               | 27.3               | 20.5                | 18.5                   |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.9b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by student income in 1994, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Independent student income in 1994 |                |                 |                     |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
|   | Less than \$6,000                  | \$6,000–14,999 | \$15,000–24,999 | \$25,000 or greater |
| Total   | 25.2                               | 25.8           | 24.2            | 24.8                |
| Gender  |                                    |                |                 |                     |
| Male  | 22.4                               | 25.8           | 29.1            | 22.7                |
| Female  | 26.9                               | 25.8           | 21.4            | 25.9                |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                                    |                |                 |                     |
| 18 years or younger                             | 75.9                               | 16.3           | 6.3             | 1.5                 |
| 19 years  | 67.4                               | 23.3           | 6.5             | 2.9                 |
| 20–23 years                                     | 32.1                               | 34.9           | 20.9            | 12.2                |
| 24–29 years                                     | 13.3                               | 32.4           | 37.1            | 17.2                |
| 30 or older                                     | 15.9                               | 19.7           | 22.4            | 42.0                |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                                    |                |                 |                     |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 21.6                               | 26.9           | 24.1            | 27.4                |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 34.5                               | 26.3           | 22.5            | 16.7                |
| Hispanic  | 31.9                               | 20.5           | 25.8            | 21.8                |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 16.6                               | 27.4           | 37.4            | 18.6                |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | —                                  | —              | —               | —                   |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                                    |                |                 |                     |
| Single, no children                             | 32.8                               | 34.4           | 26.0            | 6.8                 |
| Single with children                            | 39.8                               | 31.9           | 20.4            | 8.0                 |
| Married   | 7.7                                | 17.3           | 25.4            | 49.6                |
| Parental education                              |                                    |                |                 |                     |
| High school diploma or less                     | 21.9                               | 22.1           | 28.1            | 27.9                |
| Some postsecondary                              | 34.0                               | 27.9           | 16.6            | 21.5                |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 27.7                               | 36.3           | 22.4            | 13.6                |
| Advanced degree                                 | 30.1                               | 25.2           | 17.5            | 27.2                |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                                    |                |                 |                     |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 34.2                               | 29.9           | 15.4            | 20.6                |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 35.5                               | 26.1           | 18.9            | 19.6                |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 10.7                               | 20.9           | 30.7            | 37.7                |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled*     |                                    |                |                 |                     |
| One   | 55.7                               | 16.7           | 1.0             | 26.5                |
| Two or three                                    | 24.8                               | 26.2           | 25.7            | 23.3                |
| Four or more                                    | 24.1                               | 27.4           | 23.8            | 24.7                |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment                |                                    |                |                 |                     |
| Did not delay                                   | 72.5                               | 18.6           | 7.3             | 1.6                 |
| Delayed   | 20.1                               | 26.9           | 26.7            | 26.2                |
| Number of children when first enrolled          |                                    |                |                 |                     |
| None  | 23.6                               | 27.3           | 25.1            | 24.0                |
| One or more                                     | 26.5                               | 26.4           | 22.9            | 24.3                |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96                   |                                    |                |                 |                     |
| Did not work                                    | 34.2                               | 29.9           | 15.4            | 20.6                |
| Worked part time                                | 32.5                               | 22.5           | 23.8            | 21.2                |
| Worked full time                                | 13.4                               | 25.8           | 27.9            | 33.0                |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.10a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by number of attrition risk factors when first began, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |      |              |              |
|---|---|------|--------------|--------------|
|   | None  | One  | Two or three | Four or more |
| Total                                     | 45.3  | 19.2 | 19.4         | 16.1         |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |   |      |              |              |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 20.3  | 17.9 | 32.0         | 29.8         |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 54.0  | 15.3 | 14.1         | 16.7         |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 63.0  | 19.6 | 10.9         | 6.4          |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 23.4  | 19.4 | 29.7         | 27.5         |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |   |      |              |              |
| None                                      | 47.9  | 19.6 | 18.1         | 14.4         |
| Certificate                               | 16.0  | 15.4 | 34.8         | 33.8         |
| Associate's degree                        | 61.1  | 19.4 | 9.2          | 10.4         |
| Type of first institution                 |   |      |              |              |
| 4-year                                    |   |      |              |              |
| Public                                    | 73.7  | 15.8 | 6.4          | 4.1          |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 78.5  | 12.2 | 5.7          | 3.7          |
| Private, for-profit                       | 33.9  | 21.8 | 26.0         | 18.4         |
| 2-year                                    |   |      |              |              |
| Public                                    | 26.2  | 23.9 | 27.2         | 22.7         |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 34.8  | 23.2 | 22.0         | 19.9         |
| Private, for-profit                       | 23.3  | 21.5 | 22.5         | 32.7         |
| Less-than-2-year                          |   |      |              |              |
| Public                                    | 13.2  | 14.3 | 39.8         | 32.8         |
| Private, for-profit                       | 10.7  | 15.9 | 40.7         | 32.7         |
| Level of first institution                |   |      |              |              |
| 4-year                                    | 75.0  | 14.5 | 6.4          | 4.1          |
| 2-year                                    | 26.1  | 23.8 | 26.8         | 23.4         |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 11.2  | 15.6 | 40.3         | 32.9         |
| Control of first institution              |   |      |              |              |
| Public                                    | 43.0  | 20.8 | 20.0         | 16.3         |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 75.5  | 12.8 | 6.8          | 4.9          |
| Private, for-profit                       | 15.9  | 18.0 | 34.1         | 32.1         |
| Degree program at first institution       |   |      |              |              |
| Certificate                               | 12.2  | 15.9 | 34.8         | 37.1         |
| Associate's degree                        | 30.9  | 25.1 | 25.1         | 18.9         |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 77.1  | 14.4 | 5.6          | 2.9          |
| Degree goal at first institution          |   |      |              |              |
| None                                      | 27.1  | 16.1 | 29.7         | 27.1         |
| Certificate                               | 10.9  | 15.2 | 35.5         | 38.4         |
| Associate's degree                        | 30.5  | 20.5 | 24.6         | 24.4         |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 64.9  | 18.6 | 11.3         | 5.2          |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |   |      |              |              |
| Always full-time                          | 65.2  | 14.8 | 12.5         | 7.5          |
| Mixed                                     | 29.4  | 29.6 | 25.3         | 15.7         |
| Always part-time                          | 0.2   | 14.6 | 33.9         | 51.3         |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |   |      |              |              |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 47.0  | 18.8 | 17.9         | 16.4         |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 36.5  | 21.1 | 27.1         | 15.3         |

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 6.10b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by number of attrition risk factors when first began, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |      |              |              |
|---|---|------|--------------|--------------|
|   | None  | One  | Two or three | Four or more |
| Total   | 45.3  | 19.2 | 19.4         | 16.1         |
| Gender  |   |      |              |              |
| Male  | 47.0  | 20.4 | 21.5         | 11.1         |
| Female  | 43.9  | 18.2 | 17.6         | 20.3         |
| Age when first enrolled                         |   |      |              |              |
| 18 years or younger                             | 67.2  | 22.1 | 9.1          | 1.6          |
| 19 years  | 39.2  | 30.6 | 21.9         | 8.3          |
| 20–23 years                                     | 6.9   | 19.3 | 45.0         | 28.8         |
| 24–29 years                                     | 0.0   | 1.1  | 31.2         | 67.7         |
| 30 or older                                     | 0.0   | 2.2  | 40.3         | 57.6         |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |   |      |              |              |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 48.7  | 18.3 | 18.2         | 14.8         |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 32.6  | 18.0 | 20.1         | 29.4         |
| Hispanic  | 37.0  | 24.9 | 24.4         | 13.8         |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 55.0  | 17.8 | 14.6         | 12.6         |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 26.7  | 16.3 | 32.1         | 24.9         |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |   |      |              |              |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 61.4  | 25.0 | 13.2         | 0.5          |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 0.0   | 8.6  | 53.3         | 38.1         |
| Single with children                            | 0.0   | 0.0  | 16.4         | 83.6         |
| Married   | 0.0   | 1.8  | 44.2         | 54.1         |
| Parental education                              |   |      |              |              |
| High school diploma or less                     | 32.6  | 20.1 | 23.9         | 23.5         |
| Some postsecondary                              | 45.0  | 21.9 | 17.4         | 15.7         |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 59.3  | 19.0 | 14.2         | 7.5          |
| Advanced degree                                 | 71.1  | 16.2 | 8.7          | 4.0          |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |   |      |              |              |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 54.2  | 13.3 | 19.7         | 12.8         |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 49.1  | 24.4 | 17.3         | 9.2          |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 14.1  | 12.6 | 29.9         | 43.5         |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |   |      |              |              |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 54.3  | 29.0 | 16.2         | 0.6          |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 56.1  | 29.7 | 13.9         | 0.3          |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 64.7  | 22.5 | 12.5         | 0.3          |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 70.9  | 18.5 | 10.0         | 0.6          |

**Table 6.10b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students by number of attrition risk factors when first began, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled—Continued**

|  | Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |      |              |              |
|--|---|------|--------------|--------------|
|  | None  | One  | Two or three | Four or more |
| Independent student income in 1994     |   |      |              |              |
| Less than \$6,000                      | 0.0   | 6.4  | 36.1         | 57.5         |
| \$6,000–14,999                         | 0.0   | 1.8  | 36.2         | 62.0         |
| \$15,000–24,999                        | 0.0   | 0.1  | 39.7         | 60.2         |
| \$25,000 or greater                    | 0.0   | 3.2  | 35.3         | 61.5         |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment       |   |      |              |              |
| Did not delay                          | 67.7  | 22.2 | 8.8          | 1.3          |
| Delayed                                | 0.0   | 15.4 | 39.9         | 44.7         |
| Dependency status when first enrolled  |   |      |              |              |
| Dependent                              | 61.4  | 25.0 | 13.2         | 0.5          |
| Independent                            | 0.0   | 2.9  | 36.8         | 60.3         |
| Number of children when first enrolled |   |      |              |              |
| None                                   | 53.7  | 22.8 | 18.8         | 4.8          |
| One or more                            | 0.0   | 0.0  | 22.4         | 77.6         |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96          |   |      |              |              |
| Did not work                           | 54.2  | 13.3 | 19.7         | 12.8         |
| Worked part time                       | 58.1  | 22.5 | 13.0         | 6.4          |
| Worked full time                       | 0.0   | 18.1 | 36.7         | 45.2         |

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.1a—Percentage of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who received financial aid and among student aid recipients, the amount received in 1995–96, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Received financial aid | Received grants | Received student loans | Total financial aid amount | Total grant amount | Total student loan amount |
|---|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Total                                     | 61.2                   | 50.7            | 30.7                   | \$4,924                    | \$3,057            | \$3,095                   |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |                        |                 |                        |                            |                    |                           |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 68.9                   | 52.5            | 39.5                   | 4,688                      | 2,229              | 3,858                     |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 64.5                   | 53.6            | 26.8                   | 4,602                      | 2,521              | 3,187                     |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 61.9                   | 52.3            | 33.5                   | 5,954                      | 3,973              | 2,964                     |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 57.3                   | 47.8            | 23.7                   | 3,271                      | 1,863              | 2,928                     |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                        |                 |                        |                            |                    |                           |
| None                                      | 60.0                   | 50.4            | 29.8                   | 4,977                      | 3,203              | 2,953                     |
| Certificate                               | 67.4                   | 50.9            | 34.1                   | 4,234                      | 1,989              | 3,835                     |
| Associate's degree                        | 66.3                   | 56.8            | 35.9                   | 5,232                      | 2,663              | 3,528                     |
| Type of first institution                 |                        |                 |                        |                            |                    |                           |
| 4-year                                    |                        |                 |                        |                            |                    |                           |
| Public                                    | 68.8                   | 53.7            | 40.4                   | 4,816                      | 2,967              | 2,724                     |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 81.2                   | 74.1            | 57.1                   | 9,961                      | 6,359              | 3,392                     |
| Private, for-profit                       | 86.2                   | 70.4            | 65.5                   | 5,796                      | 2,106              | 4,381                     |
| 2-year                                    |                        |                 |                        |                            |                    |                           |
| Public                                    | 44.0                   | 37.9            | 10.2                   | 2,112                      | 1,510              | 2,273                     |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 81.8                   | 71.4            | 49.7                   | 5,439                      | 2,991              | 3,583                     |
| Private, for-profit                       | 89.7                   | 67.9            | 69.2                   | 5,420                      | 2,101              | 3,721                     |
| Less-than-2-year                          |                        |                 |                        |                            |                    |                           |
| Public                                    | 67.8                   | 53.5            | 4.9                    | 1,843                      | 1,520              | —                         |
| Private, for-profit                       | 81.2                   | 59.7            | 54.1                   | 4,696                      | 2,023              | 3,889                     |
| Level of first institution                |                        |                 |                        |                            |                    |                           |
| 4-year                                    | 73.5                   | 61.2            | 46.7                   | 6,876                      | 4,433              | 3,044                     |
| 2-year                                    | 48.0                   | 40.7            | 15.2                   | 2,666                      | 1,629              | 2,831                     |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 78.7                   | 58.7            | 44.2                   | 4,214                      | 1,952              | 3,880                     |
| Control of first institution              |                        |                 |                        |                            |                    |                           |
| Public                                    | 53.3                   | 43.9            | 20.8                   | 3,342                      | 2,143              | 2,591                     |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 81.2                   | 73.9            | 56.4                   | 9,653                      | 6,145              | 3,401                     |
| Private, for-profit                       | 84.3                   | 62.9            | 59.6                   | 4,997                      | 2,055              | 3,847                     |
| Degree program at first institution       |                        |                 |                        |                            |                    |                           |
| Certificate                               | 66.9                   | 53.4            | 29.4                   | 3,704                      | 1,879              | 3,741                     |
| Associate's degree                        | 47.9                   | 40.4            | 17.1                   | 2,932                      | 1,811              | 2,718                     |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 73.2                   | 61.0            | 46.7                   | 6,945                      | 4,500              | 3,048                     |

**Table 7.1a—Percentage of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who received financial aid and among student aid recipients, the amount received in 1995–96, by institution type and attendance patterns—Continued**

|   | Received<br>financial<br>aid | Received<br>grants | Received<br>student<br>loans | Total<br>financial<br>aid<br>amount | Total<br>grant<br>amount | Total<br>student<br>loan<br>amount |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Degree goal at first institution        |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| None                                    | 54.1                         | 44.6               | 23.0                         | \$3,205                             | \$1,661                  | \$2,927                            |
| Certificate                             | 66.0                         | 51.1               | 31.9                         | 3,735                               | 1,678                    | 3,681                              |
| Associate's degree                      | 53.5                         | 46.1               | 17.9                         | 3,103                               | 1,922                    | 2,834                              |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year | 67.1                         | 56.2               | 39.3                         | 6,364                               | 4,161                    | 3,087                              |
| Intensity pattern through 1998          |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| Always full-time                        | 72.2                         | 59.5               | 40.9                         | 5,657                               | 3,520                    | 3,142                              |
| Mixed                                   | 53.5                         | 44.3               | 24.0                         | 4,260                               | 2,707                    | 2,951                              |
| Always part-time                        | 36.3                         | 32.3               | 5.6                          | 1,372                               | 879                      | 2,922                              |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998      |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| Continuously enrolled                   | 62.4                         | 51.7               | 31.5                         | 5,098                               | 3,191                    | 3,107                              |
| Not continuously enrolled               | 55.8                         | 46.7               | 26.0                         | 3,879                               | 2,316                    | 2,996                              |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.1b—Percentage of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who received financial aid and among student aid recipients, the amount received in 1995–96, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Received<br>financial<br>aid | Received<br>grants | Received<br>student<br>loans | Total<br>financial<br>aid<br>amount | Total<br>grant<br>amount | Total<br>student<br>loan<br>amount |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Total   | 61.2                         | 50.7               | 30.7                         | \$4,924                             | \$3,057                  | \$3,095                            |
| Gender  |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| Male  | 57.2                         | 46.4               | 30.8                         | 5,091                               | 3,029                    | 3,081                              |
| Female  | 64.4                         | 54.3               | 30.6                         | 4,800                               | 3,076                    | 3,107                              |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| 18 years or younger                             | 61.1                         | 51.3               | 33.1                         | 5,839                               | 3,760                    | 3,005                              |
| 19 years  | 60.1                         | 48.8               | 35.9                         | 4,626                               | 2,787                    | 2,693                              |
| 20–23 years                                     | 65.5                         | 54.2               | 29.1                         | 3,668                               | 2,040                    | 3,279                              |
| 24–29 years                                     | 66.4                         | 56.0               | 22.7                         | 2,794                               | 1,454                    | 3,784                              |
| 30 or older                                     | 55.6                         | 43.5               | 19.2                         | 3,145                               | 1,672                    | 3,980                              |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 57.9                         | 46.4               | 29.9                         | 4,944                               | 3,023                    | 3,059                              |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 74.7                         | 64.1               | 36.2                         | 4,566                               | 2,776                    | 3,137                              |
| Hispanic  | 65.5                         | 59.5               | 29.8                         | 4,840                               | 3,080                    | 3,103                              |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 70.2                         | 60.3               | 35.7                         | 5,745                               | 3,985                    | 3,249                              |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 54.2                         | 49.1               | 37.7                         | 5,229                               | 2,629                    | —                                  |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 59.1                         | 48.8               | 32.7                         | 5,588                               | 3,589                    | 2,886                              |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 67.6                         | 53.7               | 30.2                         | 3,975                               | 1,977                    | 4,267                              |
| Single with children                            | 83.2                         | 75.2               | 27.0                         | 3,288                               | 1,840                    | 3,792                              |
| Married   | 55.8                         | 44.1               | 20.0                         | 2,858                               | 1,635                    | 3,626                              |
| Parental education                              |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| High school diploma or less                     | 68.6                         | 58.1               | 32.3                         | 4,300                               | 2,640                    | 3,170                              |
| Some postsecondary                              | 56.0                         | 47.9               | 27.3                         | 4,664                               | 2,645                    | 3,090                              |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 58.1                         | 46.9               | 33.1                         | 5,468                               | 3,586                    | 3,005                              |
| Advanced degree                                 | 54.0                         | 42.9               | 29.7                         | 7,124                               | 4,735                    | 3,028                              |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 71.1                         | 59.9               | 34.3                         | 4,942                               | 3,062                    | 3,054                              |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 61.6                         | 51.4               | 34.3                         | 5,638                               | 3,559                    | 3,112                              |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 49.4                         | 40.4               | 16.9                         | 2,713                               | 1,474                    | 3,342                              |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 77.2                         | 74.6               | 35.6                         | 5,185                               | 3,504                    | 2,742                              |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 59.4                         | 50.1               | 36.6                         | 6,037                               | 3,702                    | 3,001                              |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 55.7                         | 38.4               | 36.3                         | 5,696                               | 3,599                    | 2,885                              |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 42.7                         | 29.8               | 22.4                         | 5,629                               | 3,618                    | 2,952                              |

**Table 7.1b—Percentage of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who received financial aid and among student aid recipients, the amount received in 1995–96, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled—Continued**

|   | Received<br>financial<br>aid | Received<br>grants | Received<br>student<br>loans | Total<br>financial<br>aid<br>amount | Total<br>grant<br>amount | Total<br>student<br>loan<br>amount |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Independent student income in 1994          |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| Less than \$6,000                           | 84.3                         | 78.0               | 37.8                         | \$4,020                             | \$2,218                  | \$3,916                            |
| \$6,000–14,999                              | 73.6                         | 59.8               | 24.5                         | 3,291                               | 1,732                    | 3,858                              |
| \$15,000–24,999                             | 57.0                         | 50.3               | 17.8                         | 2,904                               | 1,566                    | 3,544                              |
| \$25,000 or greater                         | 46.8                         | 31.2               | 16.2                         | 2,599                               | 1,295                    | 4,208                              |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| None  | 68.9                         | 57.4               | 41.0                         | 6,372                               | 4,156                    | 2,907                              |
| One   | 51.0                         | 42.7               | 23.6                         | 4,093                               | 2,457                    | 2,997                              |
| Two or three                                | 48.0                         | 35.6               | 22.4                         | 3,603                               | 1,955                    | 3,539                              |
| Four or more                                | 69.8                         | 61.7               | 20.4                         | 2,760                               | 1,483                    | 3,749                              |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment            |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| Did not delay                               | 60.8                         | 51.1               | 33.4                         | 5,790                               | 3,708                    | 2,970                              |
| Delayed                                     | 62.5                         | 50.8               | 26.7                         | 3,584                               | 2,005                    | 3,363                              |
| Dependency status when first enrolled       |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| Dependent                                   | 59.1                         | 48.8               | 32.7                         | 5,588                               | 3,589                    | 2,886                              |
| Independent                                 | 68.4                         | 57.4               | 25.0                         | 3,322                               | 1,810                    | 3,885                              |
| Number of children when first enrolled      |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| None  | 59.4                         | 48.6               | 32.0                         | 5,350                               | 3,385                    | 3,021                              |
| One or more                                 | 73.1                         | 64.2               | 23.8                         | 3,079                               | 1,753                    | 3,675                              |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96               |                              |                    |                              |                                     |                          |                                    |
| Did not work                                | 71.1                         | 59.9               | 34.3                         | 4,942                               | 3,062                    | 3,054                              |
| Worked part time                            | 61.0                         | 50.1               | 34.6                         | 5,755                               | 3,693                    | 3,104                              |
| Worked full time                            | 50.5                         | 42.6               | 18.0                         | 2,884                               | 1,530                    | 3,267                              |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.2a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the average number of hours worked while enrolled when they first began, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Worked while enrolled 1995–96 |                  |                  |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|   | Did not work                  | Worked part time | Worked full time |
| Total                                     | 29.5                          | 46.9             | 23.6             |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |                               |                  |                  |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 36.9                          | 38.7             | 24.4             |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 23.7                          | 55.6             | 20.8             |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 31.6                          | 54.1             | 14.3             |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 24.4                          | 36.9             | 38.7             |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                               |                  |                  |
| None                                      | 28.8                          | 47.5             | 23.7             |
| Certificate                               | 36.9                          | 34.9             | 28.2             |
| Associate's degree                        | 25.1                          | 61.0             | 14.0             |
| Type of first institution                 |                               |                  |                  |
| 4-year                                    |                               |                  |                  |
| Public                                    | 38.8                          | 50.0             | 11.2             |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 34.3                          | 55.7             | 10.0             |
| Private, for-profit                       | 17.5                          | 50.5             | 32.1             |
| 2-year                                    |                               |                  |                  |
| Public                                    | 18.9                          | 46.4             | 34.7             |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 32.4                          | 44.7             | 22.9             |
| Private, for-profit                       | 34.8                          | 40.8             | 24.4             |
| Less-than-2-year                          |                               |                  |                  |
| Public                                    | 45.2                          | 29.6             | 25.3             |
| Private, for-profit                       | 50.2                          | 28.3             | 21.5             |
| Level of first institution                |                               |                  |                  |
| 4-year                                    | 37.0                          | 52.0             | 11.0             |
| 2-year                                    | 20.4                          | 45.9             | 33.7             |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 49.3                          | 28.4             | 22.4             |
| Control of first institution              |                               |                  |                  |
| Public                                    | 26.5                          | 47.2             | 26.3             |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 34.4                          | 54.7             | 11.0             |
| Private, for-profit                       | 43.2                          | 33.9             | 23.0             |
| Degree program at first institution       |                               |                  |                  |
| Certificate                               | 35.7                          | 31.7             | 32.6             |
| Associate's degree                        | 20.1                          | 48.8             | 31.2             |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 37.6                          | 52.3             | 10.1             |
| Degree goal at first institution          |                               |                  |                  |
| None                                      | 30.0                          | 38.2             | 31.8             |
| Certificate                               | 34.6                          | 31.8             | 33.6             |
| Associate's degree                        | 19.9                          | 46.7             | 33.4             |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 33.0                          | 53.6             | 13.5             |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |                               |                  |                  |
| Always full-time                          | 37.2                          | 50.8             | 12.1             |
| Mixed                                     | 25.4                          | 51.1             | 23.5             |
| Always part-time                          | 10.3                          | 25.4             | 64.3             |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |                               |                  |                  |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 30.4                          | 47.1             | 22.6             |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 24.7                          | 45.9             | 29.3             |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.2b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the average number of hours worked while enrolled when they first began, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Worked while enrolled 1995–96 |                  |                  |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|   | Did not work                  | Worked part time | Worked full time |
| Total   | 29.5                          | 46.9             | 23.6             |
| Gender  |                               |                  |                  |
| Male  | 27.2                          | 45.6             | 27.2             |
| Female  | 31.4                          | 48.0             | 20.6             |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                               |                  |                  |
| 18 years or younger                             | 30.0                          | 57.4             | 12.7             |
| 19 years  | 24.3                          | 52.4             | 23.3             |
| 20–23 years                                     | 29.3                          | 32.1             | 38.6             |
| 24–29 years                                     | 23.8                          | 20.1             | 56.2             |
| 30 or older                                     | 37.8                          | 20.2             | 42.1             |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                               |                  |                  |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 27.7                          | 48.4             | 24.0             |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 31.8                          | 42.4             | 25.8             |
| Hispanic  | 30.1                          | 46.9             | 23.0             |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 41.9                          | 39.2             | 18.9             |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 21.2                          | 60.5             | 18.4             |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                               |                  |                  |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 28.1                          | 55.8             | 16.1             |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 34.0                          | 17.3             | 48.7             |
| Single with children                            | 35.3                          | 27.8             | 36.9             |
| Married   | 30.2                          | 24.6             | 45.2             |
| Parental education                              |                               |                  |                  |
| High school diploma or less                     | 29.4                          | 42.7             | 27.9             |
| Some postsecondary                              | 24.0                          | 52.3             | 23.7             |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 29.9                          | 50.8             | 19.3             |
| Advanced degree                                 | 36.3                          | 53.5             | 10.3             |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                               |                  |                  |
| Student working to meet expenses                | †                             | 78.8             | 21.2             |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | †                             | 37.6             | 62.4             |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                               |                  |                  |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 31.0                          | 53.4             | 15.6             |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 21.5                          | 59.0             | 19.5             |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 24.5                          | 59.6             | 15.9             |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 35.7                          | 51.0             | 13.3             |

**Table 7.2b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the average number of hours worked while enrolled when they first began, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled—Continued**

|   | Worked while enrolled 1995–96 |                  |                  |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|   | Did not work                  | Worked part time | Worked full time |
| Independent student income in 1994          |                               |                  |                  |
| Less than \$6,000                           | 45.4                          | 31.5             | 23.2             |
| \$6,000–14,999                              | 37.4                          | 20.6             | 42.1             |
| \$15,000–24,999                             | 22.2                          | 25.2             | 52.6             |
| \$25,000 or greater                         | 26.0                          | 19.6             | 54.4             |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |                               |                  |                  |
| None  | 36.9                          | 63.1             | 0.0              |
| One   | 20.9                          | 56.4             | 22.7             |
| Two or three                                | 28.1                          | 29.8             | 42.1             |
| Four or more                                | 21.6                          | 17.2             | 61.2             |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment            |                               |                  |                  |
| Did not delay                               | 29.8                          | 57.4             | 12.8             |
| Delayed                                     | 28.4                          | 30.6             | 41.0             |
| Dependency status when first enrolled       |                               |                  |                  |
| Dependent                                   | 28.1                          | 55.8             | 16.1             |
| Independent                                 | 32.9                          | 23.7             | 43.4             |
| Number of children when first enrolled      |                               |                  |                  |
| None  | 29.2                          | 51.2             | 19.6             |
| One or more                                 | 30.8                          | 24.8             | 44.4             |

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.3a—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to how they identified their enrollment and employment relationship when they first began, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Did not work while enrolled | Student working to meet expenses | Employee who is enrolled |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Total                                     | 31.4                        | 49.5                             | 19.1                     |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |                             |                                  |                          |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 40.3                        | 34.7                             | 25.1                     |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 25.6                        | 55.3                             | 19.1                     |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 33.4                        | 56.7                             | 9.9                      |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 26.0                        | 42.0                             | 32.0                     |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                             |                                  |                          |
| None                                      | 30.6                        | 51.1                             | 18.3                     |
| Certificate                               | 40.7                        | 32.5                             | 26.8                     |
| Associate's degree                        | 26.7                        | 54.6                             | 18.7                     |
| Type of first institution                 |                             |                                  |                          |
| 4-year                                    |                             |                                  |                          |
| Public                                    | 40.6                        | 51.8                             | 7.7                      |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 36.4                        | 56.9                             | 6.7                      |
| Private, for-profit                       | 19.0                        | 63.1                             | 17.9                     |
| 2-year                                    |                             |                                  |                          |
| Public                                    | 20.4                        | 50.7                             | 29.0                     |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 35.2                        | 49.0                             | 15.7                     |
| Private, for-profit                       | 38.6                        | 39.5                             | 22.0                     |
| Less-than-2-year                          |                             |                                  |                          |
| Public                                    | 46.4                        | 34.7                             | 18.9                     |
| Private, for-profit                       | 52.9                        | 25.3                             | 21.8                     |
| Level of first institution                |                             |                                  |                          |
| 4-year                                    | 38.8                        | 53.7                             | 7.5                      |
| 2-year                                    | 22.1                        | 49.8                             | 28.2                     |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 51.6                        | 27.1                             | 21.2                     |
| Control of first institution              |                             |                                  |                          |
| Public                                    | 28.2                        | 50.6                             | 21.2                     |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 36.5                        | 56.0                             | 7.5                      |
| Private, for-profit                       | 46.3                        | 32.0                             | 21.7                     |
| Degree program at first institution       |                             |                                  |                          |
| Certificate                               | 38.2                        | 28.7                             | 33.2                     |
| Associate's degree                        | 21.6                        | 54.3                             | 24.1                     |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 39.5                        | 54.1                             | 6.4                      |
| Degree goal at first institution          |                             |                                  |                          |
| None                                      | 31.9                        | 38.5                             | 29.6                     |
| Certificate                               | 37.8                        | 29.1                             | 33.1                     |
| Associate's degree                        | 21.6                        | 52.9                             | 25.5                     |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 34.5                        | 56.3                             | 9.2                      |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |                             |                                  |                          |
| Always full-time                          | 39.1                        | 50.6                             | 10.3                     |
| Mixed                                     | 27.4                        | 57.9                             | 14.7                     |
| Always part-time                          | 11.1                        | 29.3                             | 59.6                     |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |                             |                                  |                          |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 32.3                        | 49.2                             | 18.6                     |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 26.7                        | 50.7                             | 22.6                     |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.3b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to how they identified their enrollment and employment relationship when they first began, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Did not work<br>while enrolled | Student working<br>to meet expenses | Employee who<br>is enrolled |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Total   | 31.4                           | 49.5                                | 19.1                        |
| Gender  |                                |                                     |                             |
| Male  | 29.2                           | 52.0                                | 18.8                        |
| Female  | 33.3                           | 47.4                                | 19.3                        |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                                |                                     |                             |
| 18 years or younger                             | 31.7                           | 59.1                                | 9.2                         |
| 19 years  | 25.3                           | 56.3                                | 18.4                        |
| 20–23 years                                     | 32.0                           | 39.7                                | 28.3                        |
| 24–29 years                                     | 25.5                           | 25.2                                | 49.3                        |
| 30 or older                                     | 42.2                           | 15.8                                | 42.0                        |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                                |                                     |                             |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 29.5                           | 51.2                                | 19.3                        |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 33.1                           | 43.5                                | 23.5                        |
| Hispanic  | 33.2                           | 48.2                                | 18.7                        |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 44.1                           | 47.3                                | 8.6                         |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 21.9                           | 54.7                                | 23.4                        |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                                |                                     |                             |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 29.8                           | 58.5                                | 11.8                        |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 36.4                           | 28.9                                | 34.7                        |
| Single with children                            | 37.3                           | 27.1                                | 35.6                        |
| Married   | 33.7                           | 22.7                                | 43.6                        |
| Parental education                              |                                |                                     |                             |
| High school diploma or less                     | 30.4                           | 42.5                                | 27.1                        |
| Some postsecondary                              | 24.2                           | 57.8                                | 18.0                        |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 30.1                           | 58.3                                | 11.7                        |
| Advanced degree                                 | 36.4                           | 55.9                                | 7.7                         |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                                |                                     |                             |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 33.4                           | 54.1                                | 12.5                        |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 22.9                           | 63.2                                | 13.9                        |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 25.4                           | 62.8                                | 11.8                        |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 37.6                           | 53.6                                | 8.8                         |
| Independent student income in 1994              |                                |                                     |                             |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 47.9                           | 35.7                                | 16.3                        |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 41.9                           | 26.2                                | 31.9                        |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 24.6                           | 21.8                                | 53.6                        |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 27.1                           | 18.6                                | 54.3                        |

**Table 7.3b—Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to how they identified their enrollment and employment relationship when they first began, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled—Continued**

|   | Did not work<br>while enrolled | Student working<br>to meet expenses | Employee who<br>is enrolled |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |                                |                                     |                             |
| None  | 38.6                           | 55.4                                | 6.0                         |
| One   | 22.4                           | 64.9                                | 12.7                        |
| Two or three                                | 30.2                           | 42.1                                | 27.7                        |
| Four or more                                | 23.8                           | 27.3                                | 48.9                        |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment            |                                |                                     |                             |
| Did not delay                               | 31.5                           | 59.2                                | 9.4                         |
| Delayed                                     | 30.8                           | 34.3                                | 35.0                        |
| Number of children when first enrolled      |                                |                                     |                             |
| None  | 31.0                           | 54.1                                | 14.9                        |
| One or more                                 | 33.2                           | 26.0                                | 40.7                        |
| Dependency status when first enrolled       |                                |                                     |                             |
| Dependent                                   | 29.8                           | 58.5                                | 11.8                        |
| Independent                                 | 35.7                           | 25.9                                | 38.4                        |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96               |                                |                                     |                             |
| Worked part time                            | †                              | 84.5                                | 15.6                        |
| Worked full time                            | †                              | 46.9                                | 53.1                        |

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.4a—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who identified themselves as students who work to meet expenses, the percentage who reported various limitations that work placed on school schedule, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Limits choice of<br>classes 1995–96 | Limits number of classes<br>could take 1995–96 | Limits class<br>schedule 1995–96 |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Total                                     | 22.3                                | 27.0   | 29.4                             |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |                                     |  |                                  |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 13.3                                | 17.9   | 19.6                             |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 21.0                                | 26.6   | 25.3                             |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 20.2                                | 23.6   | 26.9                             |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 29.1                                | 35.6   | 37.6                             |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                                     |  |                                  |
| None                                      | 23.2                                | 27.8   | 30.6                             |
| Certificate                               | 17.5                                | 25.5   | 25.5                             |
| Associate's degree                        | 12.5                                | 14.1   | 15.9                             |
| Type of first institution                 |                                     |  |                                  |
| 4-year                                    |                                     |  |                                  |
| Public                                    | 21.1                                | 24.5   | 27.5                             |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 12.5                                | 13.1   | 15.7                             |
| Private, for-profit                       | 19.3                                | 14.5   | 18.9                             |
| 2-year                                    |                                     |  |                                  |
| Public                                    | 27.1                                | 34.8   | 36.6                             |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 21.9                                | 18.4   | 17.1                             |
| Private, for-profit                       | 15.3                                | 16.0   | 18.5                             |
| Less-than-2-year                          |                                     |  |                                  |
| Public                                    | 13.4                                | 20.9   | 24.3                             |
| Private, for-profit                       | 24.4                                | 23.9   | 29.4                             |
| Level of first institution                |                                     |  |                                  |
| 4-year                                    | 17.9                                | 20.1   | 23.0                             |
| 2-year                                    | 26.3                                | 33.3   | 35.2                             |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 21.2                                | 23.0   | 28.0                             |
| Control of first institution              |                                     |  |                                  |
| Public                                    | 24.7                                | 30.8   | 33.1                             |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 13.0                                | 13.4   | 15.8                             |
| Private, for-profit                       | 20.0                                | 19.7   | 23.8                             |
| Degree program at first institution       |                                     |  |                                  |
| Certificate                               | 23.4                                | 26.7   | 29.1                             |
| Associate's degree                        | 26.0                                | 33.0   | 35.0                             |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 17.8                                | 20.1   | 23.0                             |
| Degree goal at first institution          |                                     |  |                                  |
| None                                      | 21.9                                | 27.2   | 28.9                             |
| Certificate                               | 25.6                                | 26.2   | 29.7                             |
| Associate's degree                        | 26.9                                | 35.3   | 36.6                             |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 19.5                                | 22.8   | 25.8                             |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |                                     |  |                                  |
| Always full-time                          | 17.1                                | 17.9   | 22.7                             |
| Mixed                                     | 24.4                                | 31.8   | 32.0                             |
| Always part-time                          | 45.3                                | 61.0   | 59.1                             |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |                                     |  |                                  |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 21.6                                | 25.2   | 27.9                             |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 24.9                                | 34.1   | 35.8                             |

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.4b—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who identified themselves as students who work to meet expenses, the percentage who reported various limitations that work placed on school schedule, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Limits choice of<br>classes 1995–96 | Limits number of classes<br>could take 1995–96 | Limits class<br>schedule 1995–96 |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Total   | 22.3                                | 27.0   | 29.4                             |
| Gender  |                                     |  |                                  |
| Male  | 24.1                                | 29.6   | 30.9                             |
| Female  | 20.8                                | 24.7   | 28.1                             |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                                     |  |                                  |
| 18 years or younger                             | 17.6                                | 22.3   | 24.8                             |
| 19 years  | 26.0                                | 29.3   | 34.7                             |
| 20–23 years                                     | 29.5                                | 37.9   | 34.5                             |
| 24–29 years                                     | 46.2                                | 51.8   | 51.3                             |
| 30 or older                                     | 51.8                                | 53.6   | 57.7                             |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                                     |  |                                  |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 19.5                                | 23.7   | 26.7                             |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 26.6                                | 32.4   | 31.3                             |
| Hispanic  | 27.5                                | 34.6   | 37.5                             |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 34.8                                | 40.3   | 47.0                             |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | —                                   | —  | —                                |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                                     |  |                                  |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 19.7                                | 24.2   | 26.3                             |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 33.7                                | 37.2   | 56.4                             |
| Single with children                            | 35.8                                | 46.2   | 41.8                             |
| Married   | 46.4                                | 49.9   | 50.5                             |
| Parental education                              |                                     |  |                                  |
| High school diploma or less                     | 24.3                                | 30.6   | 34.0                             |
| Some postsecondary                              | 16.7                                | 25.6   | 26.3                             |
| Bachelor’s degree                               | 27.2                                | 28.4   | 31.2                             |
| Advanced degree                                 | 19.3                                | 19.6   | 21.7                             |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                                     |  |                                  |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 30.3                                | 32.6   | 34.1                             |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 17.3                                | 23.6   | 27.0                             |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 16.6                                | 21.2   | 22.7                             |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 15.3                                | 19.6   | 21.3                             |
| Independent student income in 1994              |                                     |  |                                  |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 24.9                                | 27.1   | 41.3                             |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 35.3                                | 46.2   | 47.7                             |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 47.6                                | 59.1   | 56.4                             |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 58.1                                | 57.4   | 54.9                             |

**Table 7.4b—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who identified themselves as students who work to meet expenses, the percentage who reported various limitations that work placed on school schedule, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled  
—Continued**

|   | Limits choice of<br>classes 1995–96 | Limits number of classes<br>could take 1995–96 | Limits class<br>schedule 1995–96 |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |                                     |  |                                  |
| None  | 14.5                                | 17.8   | 20.7                             |
| One   | 19.3                                | 22.4   | 25.6                             |
| Two or three                                | 36.9                                | 46.6   | 45.0                             |
| Four or more                                | 45.2                                | 51.9   | 57.4                             |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment            |                                     |  |                                  |
| Did not delay                               | 17.6                                | 22.0   | 24.8                             |
| Delayed                                     | 33.6                                | 40.3   | 40.6                             |
| Dependency status when first enrolled       |                                     |  |                                  |
| Dependent                                   | 19.7                                | 24.2   | 26.3                             |
| Independent                                 | 38.7                                | 44.7   | 49.2                             |
| Number of children when first enrolled      |                                     |  |                                  |
| None  | 20.4                                | 25.0   | 27.8                             |
| One or more                                 | 44.4                                | 50.5   | 48.0                             |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96               |                                     |  |                                  |
| Worked part time                            | 16.8                                | 20.6   | 23.1                             |
| Worked full time                            | 42.7                                | 50.6   | 52.7                             |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.5a—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who identified themselves as employees who were enrolled in school, the percentage who reported various reasons for attending, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Earn degree/certificate | Learn new job skills | Required by job | Advance in job | Personal interest | Recreation |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|------------|
| Total                                     | 78.4                    | 83.0                 | 18.1            | 40.4           | 88.5              | 25.3       |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 85.3                    | 88.9                 | 10.6            | 26.7           | 87.6              | 30.9       |
| Attained, enrolled                        | 95.0                    | 72.5                 | 14.1            | 32.5           | 85.5              | 25.6       |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 77.6                    | 81.2                 | 13.8            | 37.1           | 85.1              | 29.4       |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 75.6                    | 83.7                 | 23.2            | 46.6           | 91.5              | 21.4       |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| None                                      | 76.1                    | 82.9                 | 19.7            | 43.5           | 88.9              | 24.3       |
| Certificate                               | 85.2                    | 86.8                 | 11.9            | 27.7           | 89.4              | 29.2       |
| Associate's degree                        | 95.4                    | 74.4                 | 10.3            | 27.0           | 80.8              | 30.0       |
| Type of first institution                 |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| 4-year                                    |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| Public                                    | 64.1                    | 72.3                 | 14.0            | 41.0           | 84.4              | 28.7       |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 79.2                    | 77.3                 | 18.7            | 53.4           | 81.2              | 21.9       |
| Private, for-profit                       | —                       | —                    | —               | —              | —                 | —          |
| 2-year                                    |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| Public                                    | 80.0                    | 83.6                 | 19.6            | 40.3           | 89.0              | 24.2       |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 87.9                    | 82.3                 | 6.0             | 34.3           | 98.3              | 29.7       |
| Private, for-profit                       | 86.5                    | 91.6                 | 13.3            | 41.6           | 89.0              | 25.7       |
| Less-than-2-year                          |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| Public                                    | 77.7                    | 82.4                 | 12.0            | 41.4           | 86.3              | 32.4       |
| Private, for-profit                       | 77.6                    | 91.0                 | 15.6            | 28.7           | 93.4              | 31.6       |
| Level of first institution                |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| 4-year                                    | 69.6                    | 74.6                 | 15.3            | 45.6           | 83.8              | 26.1       |
| 2-year                                    | 80.4                    | 84.0                 | 19.1            | 40.3           | 89.1              | 24.4       |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 77.7                    | 88.9                 | 14.9            | 32.3           | 92.1              | 31.2       |
| Control of first institution              |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| Public                                    | 77.9                    | 82.1                 | 18.7            | 40.4           | 88.4              | 25.0       |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 80.5                    | 77.7                 | 17.0            | 52.0           | 84.0              | 22.4       |
| Private, for-profit                       | 81.3                    | 91.4                 | 14.4            | 34.6           | 91.9              | 28.7       |
| Degree program at first institution       |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| Certificate                               | 83.5                    | 85.7                 | 20.0            | 43.0           | 86.9              | 27.2       |
| Associate's degree                        | 78.1                    | 84.2                 | 18.4            | 38.4           | 90.9              | 23.7       |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 67.3                    | 70.8                 | 11.9            | 42.3           | 82.5              | 27.1       |
| Degree goal at first institution          |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| None                                      | 49.0                    | 69.7                 | 13.5            | 39.9           | 87.4              | 28.9       |
| Certificate                               | 87.5                    | 89.6                 | 22.3            | 42.5           | 91.0              | 25.7       |
| Associate's degree                        | 88.4                    | 86.5                 | 21.2            | 42.4           | 94.5              | 20.7       |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 78.3                    | 80.5                 | 13.9            | 38.8           | 81.9              | 28.2       |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| Always full-time                          | 79.5                    | 83.4                 | 14.9            | 33.1           | 88.0              | 34.4       |
| Mixed                                     | 80.6                    | 83.2                 | 17.3            | 36.4           | 91.6              | 30.6       |
| Always part-time                          | 77.1                    | 83.1                 | 21.2            | 47.0           | 88.3              | 16.7       |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 79.3                    | 83.0                 | 19.0            | 41.9           | 89.0              | 25.0       |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 75.3                    | 84.3                 | 15.8            | 34.0           | 88.5              | 25.8       |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.5b—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who identified themselves as employees who were enrolled in school, the percentage who reported various reasons for attending, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Earn degree/certificate | Learn new job skills | Required by job | Advance in job | Personal interest | Recreation |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|------------|
| Total   | 78.4                    | 83.0                 | 18.1            | 40.4           | 88.5              | 25.3       |
| Gender  |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| Male  | 79.4                    | 82.2                 | 23.4            | 44.0           | 88.1              | 30.9       |
| Female  | 77.7                    | 83.6                 | 13.9            | 37.6           | 88.9              | 20.8       |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| 18 years or younger                             | 74.0                    | 81.1                 | 13.0            | 28.8           | 83.6              | 32.4       |
| 19 years  | 73.5                    | 75.1                 | 13.4            | 23.3           | 87.6              | 41.1       |
| 20–23 years                                     | 84.8                    | 81.0                 | 23.8            | 40.8           | 92.2              | 26.1       |
| 24–29 years                                     | 84.7                    | 93.1                 | 17.9            | 43.2           | 91.4              | 16.7       |
| 30 or older                                     | 77.7                    | 82.2                 | 22.6            | 60.5           | 90.0              | 15.2       |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 76.5                    | 81.5                 | 16.2            | 40.8           | 87.4              | 25.3       |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 78.4                    | 88.4                 | 27.1            | 38.0           | 92.4              | 24.7       |
| Hispanic  | 86.0                    | 84.3                 | 20.1            | 42.7           | 87.4              | 22.8       |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | —                       | —                    | —               | —              | —                 | —          |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | —                       | —                    | —               | —              | —                 | —          |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 73.0                    | 78.2                 | 11.8            | 27.6           | 85.8              | 33.2       |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 75.9                    | 93.0                 | 25.9            | 49.7           | 93.3              | 35.9       |
| Single with children                            | 86.1                    | 86.7                 | 24.5            | 52.8           | 87.4              | 11.2       |
| Married   | 82.9                    | 82.7                 | 18.5            | 50.2           | 95.6              | 16.1       |
| Parental education                              |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| High school diploma or less                     | 78.4                    | 84.7                 | 18.5            | 41.7           | 88.8              | 18.3       |
| Some postsecondary                              | 84.5                    | 82.3                 | 27.7            | 47.8           | 90.0              | 36.7       |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 83.7                    | 77.5                 | 10.6            | 29.4           | 82.2              | 43.9       |
| Advanced degree                                 | 64.3                    | 70.5                 | 9.4             | 35.5           | 88.6              | 36.6       |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 80.1                    | 76.8                 | 4.8             | 19.3           | 88.9              | 25.5       |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 73.4                    | 79.4                 | 16.3            | 36.0           | 84.3              | 38.0       |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 62.8                    | 79.0                 | 12.8            | 24.2           | 90.9              | 32.9       |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 76.2                    | 77.1                 | 13.2            | 31.1           | 76.6              | 37.5       |
| Independent student income in 1994              |                         |                      |                 |                |                   |            |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 82.3                    | 85.9                 | 27.6            | 49.8           | 91.8              | 28.6       |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 90.7                    | 89.1                 | 21.3            | 43.0           | 84.6              | 22.9       |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 78.3                    | 91.7                 | 16.8            | 40.0           | 94.9              | 23.5       |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 81.6                    | 81.7                 | 28.3            | 64.5           | 90.1              | 9.8        |

**Table 7.5b—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who identified themselves as employees who were enrolled in school, the percentage who reported various reasons for attending, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled—Continued**

|   | Earn<br>degree/<br>certificate | Learn<br>new job<br>skills | Required<br>by job | Advance<br>in job | Personal<br>interest | Recreation |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |                                |                            |                    |                   |                      |            |
| None  | 71.6                           | 78.3                       | 11.3               | 32.1              | 83.5                 | 46.2       |
| One   | 75.8                           | 81.6                       | 10.0               | 31.2              | 76.3                 | 32.2       |
| Two or three                                | 77.6                           | 82.2                       | 17.8               | 30.2              | 93.4                 | 22.5       |
| Four or more                                | 81.1                           | 84.8                       | 21.4               | 52.5              | 92.4                 | 19.5       |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment            |                                |                            |                    |                   |                      |            |
| Did not delay                               | 76.2                           | 79.9                       | 15.3               | 30.5              | 85.0                 | 35.1       |
| Delayed                                     | 80.1                           | 83.5                       | 18.6               | 44.9              | 90.1                 | 20.2       |
| Dependency status when first enrolled       |                                |                            |                    |                   |                      |            |
| Dependent                                   | 73.0                           | 78.2                       | 11.8               | 27.6              | 85.8                 | 33.2       |
| Independent                                 | 82.2                           | 86.5                       | 22.3               | 50.9              | 92.4                 | 19.5       |
| Number of children when first enrolled      |                                |                            |                    |                   |                      |            |
| None  | 73.9                           | 82.4                       | 15.7               | 33.9              | 88.2                 | 32.0       |
| One or more                                 | 86.1                           | 83.3                       | 21.0               | 53.0              | 91.9                 | 13.3       |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96               |                                |                            |                    |                   |                      |            |
| Worked part time                            | 77.7                           | 82.4                       | 12.3               | 29.1              | 82.9                 | 32.1       |
| Worked full time                            | 78.9                           | 83.3                       | 21.5               | 47.3              | 92.0                 | 21.2       |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.6a—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who were not enrolled as of 1998, the percentage distribution according to their employment status, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Currently working | Out of labor force | Currently looking for work |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Total                                     | 82.2              | 10.4               | 7.4                        |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |                   |                    |                            |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 80.3              | 10.8               | 9.0                        |
| Attained, enrolled                        | †                 | †                  | †                          |
| No degree, enrolled                       | 67.9              | 24.7               | 7.5                        |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 83.4              | 9.7                | 6.9                        |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |                   |                    |                            |
| None                                      | 83.1              | 10.0               | 6.9                        |
| Certificate                               | 78.2              | 13.1               | 8.6                        |
| Associate's degree                        | 85.5              | 5.5                | 9.0                        |
| Type of first institution                 |                   |                    |                            |
| 4-year                                    |                   |                    |                            |
| Public                                    | 84.1              | 7.4                | 8.6                        |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 83.4              | 10.6               | 6.0                        |
| Private, for-profit                       | 72.1              | 17.3               | 10.6                       |
| 2-year                                    |                   |                    |                            |
| Public                                    | 84.8              | 10.2               | 5.0                        |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 84.3              | 6.5                | 9.2                        |
| Private, for-profit                       | 80.6              | 7.8                | 11.6                       |
| Less-than-2-year                          |                   |                    |                            |
| Public                                    | 78.0              | 8.3                | 13.7                       |
| Private, for-profit                       | 72.9              | 14.9               | 12.1                       |
| Level of first institution                |                   |                    |                            |
| 4-year                                    | 83.5              | 8.7                | 7.8                        |
| 2-year                                    | 84.3              | 9.9                | 5.8                        |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 73.7              | 13.8               | 12.5                       |
| Control of first institution              |                   |                    |                            |
| Public                                    | 84.3              | 9.6                | 6.1                        |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 82.9              | 10.2               | 6.9                        |
| Private, for-profit                       | 75.2              | 12.9               | 11.9                       |
| Degree program at first institution       |                   |                    |                            |
| Certificate                               | 79.3              | 11.5               | 9.2                        |
| Associate's degree                        | 83.9              | 10.1               | 6.0                        |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 83.7              | 8.7                | 7.6                        |
| Degree goal at first institution          |                   |                    |                            |
| None                                      | 79.2              | 11.7               | 9.1                        |
| Certificate                               | 78.6              | 11.6               | 9.8                        |
| Associate's degree                        | 86.2              | 9.1                | 4.7                        |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 84.7              | 8.2                | 7.2                        |

**Table 7.6a—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who were not enrolled as of 1998, the percentage distribution according to their employment status, by institution type and attendance patterns—Continued**

|                                    | Currently working | Out of labor force | Currently looking for work |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Intensity pattern through 1998     |                   |                    |                            |
| Always full-time                   | 80.2              | 10.1               | 9.8                        |
| Mixed                              | 82.1              | 13.1               | 4.8                        |
| Always part-time                   | 86.8              | 7.9                | 5.3                        |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998 |                   |                    |                            |
| Continuously enrolled              | 82.7              | 9.7                | 7.6                        |
| Not continuously enrolled          | 79.7              | 13.7               | 6.6                        |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.6b—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who were not enrolled as of 1998, the percentage distribution according to their employment status, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Currently working | Out of labor force | Currently looking for work |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Total   | 82.2              | 10.4               | 7.4                        |
| Gender  |                   |                    |                            |
| Male  | 88.4              | 4.9                | 6.7                        |
| Female  | 77.5              | 14.5               | 8.0                        |
| Age when first enrolled                         |                   |                    |                            |
| 18 years or younger                             | 84.2              | 8.2                | 7.6                        |
| 19 years  | 84.1              | 9.7                | 6.2                        |
| 20–23 years                                     | 82.1              | 6.5                | 11.4                       |
| 24–29 years                                     | 85.7              | 10.2               | 4.1                        |
| 30 or older                                     | 74.0              | 18.8               | 7.2                        |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |                   |                    |                            |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 84.2              | 10.7               | 5.1                        |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 80.7              | 5.2                | 14.1                       |
| Hispanic  | 76.3              | 12.8               | 10.9                       |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 76.9              | 20.2               | 2.9                        |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | 91.8              | 1.1                | 7.1                        |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |                   |                    |                            |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 84.9              | 6.7                | 8.4                        |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 73.7              | 19.3               | 7.0                        |
| Single with children                            | 80.9              | 10.3               | 8.9                        |
| Married   | 80.3              | 15.0               | 4.7                        |
| Parental education                              |                   |                    |                            |
| High school diploma or less                     | 81.3              | 10.9               | 7.8                        |
| Some postsecondary                              | 87.9              | 6.2                | 5.9                        |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 87.3              | 7.1                | 5.7                        |
| Advanced degree                                 | 78.6              | 18.6               | 2.7                        |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |                   |                    |                            |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 67.8              | 17.7               | 14.5                       |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 90.5              | 4.8                | 4.7                        |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 87.8              | 8.2                | 3.9                        |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |                   |                    |                            |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 76.3              | 8.1                | 15.6                       |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 89.9              | 3.8                | 6.4                        |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 90.6              | 6.4                | 3.0                        |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 86.2              | 9.5                | 4.3                        |

**Table 7.6b—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who were not enrolled as of 1998, the percentage distribution according to their employment status, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled—Continued**

|   | Currently working | Out of labor force | Currently looking for work |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Independent student income in 1994          |                   |                    |                            |
| Less than \$6,000                           | 76.9              | 12.3               | 10.8                       |
| \$6,000–14,999                              | 72.9              | 17.4               | 9.7                        |
| \$15,000–24,999                             | 84.5              | 13.2               | 2.3                        |
| \$25,000 or greater                         | 87.9              | 9.0                | 3.2                        |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |                   |                    |                            |
| None  | 83.5              | 7.4                | 9.1                        |
| One   | 86.1              | 4.9                | 9.0                        |
| Two or three                                | 75.9              | 16.5               | 7.6                        |
| Four or more                                | 86.4              | 8.2                | 5.4                        |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment            |                   |                    |                            |
| Did not delay                               | 84.7              | 8.2                | 7.2                        |
| Delayed                                     | 81.6              | 11.4               | 7.0                        |
| Dependency status when first enrolled       |                   |                    |                            |
| Dependent                                   | 84.9              | 6.7                | 8.4                        |
| Independent                                 | 79.8              | 13.4               | 6.8                        |
| Number of children when first enrolled      |                   |                    |                            |
| None  | 81.7              | 10.5               | 7.9                        |
| One or more                                 | 83.3              | 10.1               | 6.7                        |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96               |                   |                    |                            |
| Did not work                                | 67.8              | 17.7               | 14.5                       |
| Worked part time                            | 86.2              | 8.6                | 5.3                        |
| Worked full time                            | 90.9              | 5.5                | 3.6                        |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.7a—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who were not enrolled as of 1998 and who reported working, the percentage distribution according to hours worked per week, the average hours worked per week, and the median starting salary for those employed full time, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | 1–24<br>hours | 25–34<br>hours | 35 or more<br>hours | Average<br>hours worked | Median full-time<br>starting salary |
|---|---------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Total                                     | 9.6           | 12.0           | 78.4                | 38.8                    | \$14,985                            |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |               |                |                     |                         |                                     |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 7.3           | 15.3           | 77.5                | 38.5                    | 15,026                              |
| Attained, enrolled                        | †             | †              | †                   | †                       | †                                   |
| No degree, enrolled                       | †             | †              | †                   | †                       | †                                   |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 10.5          | 10.8           | 78.7                | 38.9                    | 15,053                              |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |               |                |                     |                         |                                     |
| None                                      | 10.5          | 10.8           | 78.7                | 38.9                    | 15,078                              |
| Certificate                               | 8.3           | 14.7           | 77.1                | 38.4                    | 15,012                              |
| Associate's degree                        | 2.0           | 19.5           | 78.5                | 38.9                    | 16,577                              |
| Type of first institution                 |               |                |                     |                         |                                     |
| 4-year                                    |               |                |                     |                         |                                     |
| Public                                    | 7.8           | 14.3           | 77.9                | 39.2                    | 14,816                              |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 9.4           | 10.4           | 80.2                | 38.7                    | 14,801                              |
| Private, for-profit                       | —             | —              | —                   | —                       | —                                   |
| 2-year                                    |               |                |                     |                         |                                     |
| Public                                    | 9.6           | 10.1           | 80.4                | 39.1                    | 15,376                              |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 3.2           | 13.7           | 83.1                | 40.2                    | 17,560                              |
| Private, for-profit                       | 6.7           | 12.1           | 81.2                | 38.9                    | 14,854                              |
| Less-than-2-year                          |               |                |                     |                         |                                     |
| Public                                    | 15.1          | 15.4           | 69.6                | 38.1                    | 16,018                              |
| Private, for-profit                       | 11.5          | 17.0           | 71.5                | 37.1                    | 13,953                              |
| Level of first institution                |               |                |                     |                         |                                     |
| 4-year                                    | 8.2           | 12.9           | 78.9                | 39.1                    | 14,758                              |
| 2-year                                    | 9.2           | 10.3           | 80.5                | 39.1                    | 15,189                              |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 12.6          | 16.6           | 70.8                | 37.2                    | 13,916                              |
| Control of first institution              |               |                |                     |                         |                                     |
| Public                                    | 9.6           | 11.1           | 79.4                | 39.1                    | 14,910                              |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 9.4           | 11.0           | 79.7                | 38.7                    | 15,251                              |
| Private, for-profit                       | 9.9           | 15.4           | 74.8                | 37.7                    | 14,212                              |
| Degree program at first institution       |               |                |                     |                         |                                     |
| Certificate                               | 7.5           | 13.8           | 78.7                | 39.0                    | 14,810                              |
| Associate's degree                        | 11.6          | 10.4           | 78.0                | 38.5                    | 14,863                              |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 8.7           | 12.3           | 79.0                | 39.0                    | 14,595                              |
| Degree goal at first institution          |               |                |                     |                         |                                     |
| None                                      | 12.5          | 8.8            | 78.8                | 38.6                    | 14,170                              |
| Certificate                               | 6.4           | 13.5           | 80.2                | 39.3                    | 15,314                              |
| Associate's degree                        | 7.4           | 10.6           | 82.0                | 39.7                    | 15,340                              |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 11.5          | 16.1           | 72.5                | 37.8                    | 14,300                              |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |               |                |                     |                         |                                     |
| Always full-time                          | 8.9           | 13.4           | 77.8                | 38.7                    | 14,294                              |
| Mixed                                     | 12.3          | 17.2           | 70.5                | 37.7                    | 14,449                              |
| Always part-time                          | 9.0           | 6.2            | 84.8                | 39.6                    | 17,826                              |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |               |                |                     |                         |                                     |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 10.0          | 12.0           | 78.0                | 38.7                    | 14,877                              |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 3.6           | 11.8           | 84.6                | 39.4                    | 15,134                              |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.7b—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who were not enrolled as of 1998 and who reported working, the percentage distribution according to hours worked per week, the average hours worked per week, and the median full-time starting salary, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | 1–24<br>hours | 25–34<br>hours | 5 or more<br>hours | Average<br>hours worked | Median full-time<br>starting salary |
|---|---------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Total   | 9.6           | 12.0           | 78.4               | 38.8                    | \$14,985                            |
| Gender  |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| Male  | 7.9           | 7.2            | 84.9               | 41.0                    | 15,924                              |
| Female  | 11.0          | 15.9           | 73.1               | 36.9                    | 13,550                              |
| Age when first enrolled                         |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| 18 years or younger                             | 9.2           | 13.0           | 77.8               | 39.1                    | 14,041                              |
| 19 years  | 6.6           | 19.8           | 73.6               | 37.5                    | 14,014                              |
| 20–23 years                                     | 18.6          | 9.9            | 71.5               | 36.7                    | 13,777                              |
| 24–29 years                                     | 2.7           | 7.9            | 89.4               | 40.5                    | 16,721                              |
| 30 or older                                     | 11.2          | 9.9            | 79.0               | 39.2                    | 18,666                              |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 8.3           | 11.5           | 80.1               | 39.2                    | 14,988                              |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 13.7          | 12.7           | 73.6               | 37.7                    | 15,100                              |
| Hispanic  | 11.0          | 14.0           | 74.9               | 37.6                    | 15,127                              |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 15.3          | 10.8           | 73.9               | 39.4                    | 20,012                              |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | —             | —              | —                  | —                       | —                                   |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 11.2          | 11.8           | 77.0               | 38.4                    | 14,127                              |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 2.0           | 14.2           | 83.9               | 39.6                    | 16,410                              |
| Single with children                            | 8.4           | 11.8           | 79.8               | 38.1                    | 14,691                              |
| Married   | 11.2          | 11.8           | 77.0               | 39.8                    | 17,810                              |
| Parental education                              |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| High school diploma or less                     | 8.5           | 9.5            | 82.1               | 39.4                    | 15,893                              |
| Some postsecondary                              | 8.4           | 18.6           | 73.0               | 37.6                    | 14,806                              |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 7.0           | 7.9            | 85.1               | 40.1                    | 14,641                              |
| Advanced degree                                 | 19.7          | 10.3           | 70.0               | 37.5                    | 12,056                              |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 10.7          | 17.6           | 71.8               | 37.2                    | 12,966                              |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 10.0          | 12.1           | 77.9               | 38.6                    | 14,857                              |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 3.9           | 6.5            | 89.6               | 41.5                    | 16,425                              |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 15.3          | 11.4           | 73.3               | 37.4                    | 13,641                              |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 5.6           | 12.4           | 81.9               | 39.7                    | 13,026                              |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 14.7          | 9.2            | 76.2               | 37.1                    | 15,360                              |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 4.5           | 17.6           | 77.9               | 41.5                    | 13,887                              |

**Table 7.7b—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who were not enrolled as of 1998 and who reported working, the percentage distribution according to hours worked per week, the average hours worked per week, and the median full-time starting salary, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled—Continued**

|   | 1–24<br>hours | 25–34<br>hours | 5 or more<br>hours | Average<br>hours worked | Median full-time<br>starting salary |
|---|---------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Independent student income in 1994          |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| Less than \$6,000                           | 9.0           | 21.4           | 69.6               | 36.8                    | \$13,759                            |
| \$6,000–14,999                              | 9.8           | 13.0           | 77.3               | 38.1                    | 14,475                              |
| \$15,000–24,999                             | 7.1           | 9.7            | 83.2               | 39.4                    | 17,588                              |
| \$25,000 or greater                         | 5.9           | 6.4            | 87.7               | 42.3                    | 22,315                              |
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| None  | 8.4           | 14.1           | 77.6               | 38.5                    | 13,992                              |
| One   | 17.5          | 12.1           | 70.4               | 37.1                    | 14,250                              |
| Two or three                                | 8.0           | 15.1           | 76.8               | 38.9                    | 15,122                              |
| Four or more                                | 7.2           | 8.3            | 84.5               | 40.0                    | 17,681                              |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment            |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| Did not delay                               | 9.5           | 14.0           | 76.5               | 38.8                    | 13,381                              |
| Delayed                                     | 9.9           | 11.0           | 79.1               | 38.7                    | 16,142                              |
| Dependency status when first enrolled       |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| Dependent                                   | 11.2          | 11.8           | 77.0               | 38.4                    | 14,127                              |
| Independent                                 | 8.0           | 12.7           | 79.3               | 39.2                    | 16,203                              |
| Number of children when first enrolled      |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| None  | 9.6           | 12.8           | 77.6               | 38.7                    | 14,736                              |
| One or more                                 | 9.7           | 10.3           | 80.0               | 39.0                    | 15,719                              |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96               |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| Did not work                                | 10.7          | 17.6           | 71.8               | 37.2                    | 12,966                              |
| Worked part time                            | 11.8          | 15.8           | 72.4               | 37.8                    | 14,523                              |
| Worked full time                            | 4.0           | 5.5            | 90.5               | 41.5                    | 16,555                              |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.8a—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who were not enrolled as of 1998 and who reported working, the percentage reporting various job enhancements as a result of their enrollment, by institution type and attendance patterns**

|   | Degree/certificate<br>required for job | Able to earn<br>higher salary | Able to take on<br>more responsibility |
|---|--|-------------------------------|--|
| Total                                     | 13.2                                   | 43.3                          | 52.0                                   |
| Total 3-year persistence and attainment   |  |                               |  |
| Attained, not enrolled                    | 30.4                                   | 67.2                          | 70.5                                   |
| Attained, enrolled                        | †                                      | †                             | †                                      |
| No degree, enrolled                       | †                                      | †                             | †                                      |
| No degree, not enrolled                   | 6.9                                    | 34.4                          | 45.2                                   |
| Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained |  |                               |  |
| None                                      | 6.9                                    | 34.4                          | 45.2                                   |
| Certificate                               | 31.3                                   | 65.7                          | 68.8                                   |
| Associate's degree                        | 24.4                                   | 69.0                          | 76.5                                   |
| Type of first institution                 |  |                               |  |
| 4-year                                    |  |                               |  |
| Public                                    | 7.3                                    | 35.8                          | 47.2                                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 7.6                                    | 36.0                          | 41.7                                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | —                                      | —                             | —                                      |
| 2-year                                    |  |                               |  |
| Public                                    | 8.3                                    | 37.1                          | 48.1                                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 13.6                                   | 58.6                          | 65.7                                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 18.7                                   | 68.0                          | 69.6                                   |
| Less-than-2-year                          |  |                               |  |
| Public                                    | 24.4                                   | 64.7                          | 68.4                                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 33.5                                   | 59.7                          | 63.1                                   |
| Level of first institution                |  |                               |  |
| 4-year                                    | 7.9                                    | 35.9                          | 45.2                                   |
| 2-year                                    | 9.4                                    | 40.6                          | 50.5                                   |
| Less-than-2-year                          | 31.6                                   | 60.8                          | 64.3                                   |
| Control of first institution              |  |                               |  |
| Public                                    | 8.9                                    | 38.3                          | 49.0                                   |
| Private, not-for-profit                   | 8.9                                    | 40.8                          | 46.6                                   |
| Private, for-profit                       | 29.1                                   | 61.7                          | 64.2                                   |
| Degree program at first institution       |  |                               |  |
| Certificate                               | 24.5                                   | 58.5                          | 66.5                                   |
| Associate's degree                        | 6.0                                    | 34.3                          | 42.3                                   |
| Bachelor's degree                         | 6.3                                    | 33.8                          | 45.3                                   |
| Degree goal at first institution          |  |                               |  |
| None                                      | 8.7                                    | 35.1                          | 39.8                                   |
| Certificate                               | 25.9                                   | 63.0                          | 70.3                                   |
| Associate's degree                        | 10.0                                   | 40.5                          | 49.5                                   |
| Bachelor's degree or transfer to 4-year   | 6.7                                    | 29.7                          | 41.0                                   |
| Intensity pattern through 1998            |  |                               |  |
| Always full-time                          | 16.3                                   | 48.7                          | 57.6                                   |
| Mixed                                     | 13.2                                   | 41.9                          | 45.8                                   |
| Always part-time                          | 7.8                                    | 35.2                          | 46.4                                   |
| Enrollment continuity through 1998        |  |                               |  |
| Continuously enrolled                     | 13.5                                   | 44.1                          | 52.8                                   |
| Not continuously enrolled                 | 9.2                                    | 30.8                          | 40.5                                   |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

†Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.8b—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who were not enrolled as of 1998 and who reported working, the percentage reporting various job enhancements as a result of their enrollment, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled**

|   | Degree/certificate<br>required for job | Able to earn<br>higher salary | Able to take on<br>more responsibility |
|---|--|-------------------------------|--|
| Total   | 13.2                                   | 43.3                          | 52.0                                   |
| Gender  |  |                               |  |
| Male  | 9.8                                    | 42.9                          | 54.8                                   |
| Female  | 16.1                                   | 43.6                          | 49.7                                   |
| Age when first enrolled                         |  |                               |  |
| 18 years or younger                             | 7.4                                    | 35.8                          | 49.2                                   |
| 19 years  | 12.4                                   | 44.7                          | 56.3                                   |
| 20–23 years                                     | 20.5                                   | 56.7                          | 55.2                                   |
| 24–29 years                                     | 19.6                                   | 51.0                          | 55.0                                   |
| 30 or older                                     | 14.4                                   | 41.7                          | 50.7                                   |
| Race/ethnicity                                  |  |                               |  |
| White, non-Hispanic                             | 11.7                                   | 41.2                          | 49.2                                   |
| Black, non-Hispanic                             | 17.7                                   | 47.6                          | 55.9                                   |
| Hispanic  | 12.1                                   | 52.3                          | 64.7                                   |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                          | 28.8                                   | 33.9                          | 51.5                                   |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native                  | —                                      | —                             | —                                      |
| Marital status and children when first enrolled |  |                               |  |
| Single, no children (dependent)                 | 8.3                                    | 40.4                          | 53.4                                   |
| Single, no children (independent)               | 11.6                                   | 35.6                          | 36.2                                   |
| Single with children                            | 25.7                                   | 58.3                          | 61.1                                   |
| Married   | 16.2                                   | 45.0                          | 52.1                                   |
| Parental education                              |  |                               |  |
| High school diploma or less                     | 14.3                                   | 48.9                          | 58.4                                   |
| Some postsecondary                              | 12.0                                   | 37.5                          | 44.8                                   |
| Bachelor's degree                               | 9.9                                    | 35.8                          | 44.0                                   |
| Advanced degree                                 | 4.6                                    | 36.0                          | 39.7                                   |
| Student/employee role 1995–96                   |  |                               |  |
| Did not work while enrolled                     | 24.2                                   | 54.3                          | 59.6                                   |
| Student working to meet expenses                | 10.6                                   | 36.1                          | 45.6                                   |
| Employee who is enrolled                        | 10.0                                   | 44.0                          | 54.1                                   |
| Dependent family income in 1994                 |  |                               |  |
| Less than \$25,000                              | 11.7                                   | 38.5                          | 54.9                                   |
| \$25,000–44,999                                 | 7.7                                    | 39.1                          | 51.2                                   |
| \$45,000–69,999                                 | 6.8                                    | 42.5                          | 53.1                                   |
| \$70,000 or greater                             | 3.8                                    | 44.0                          | 54.9                                   |
| Independent student income in 1994              |  |                               |  |
| Less than \$6,000                               | 22.4                                   | 45.8                          | 44.9                                   |
| \$6,000–14,999                                  | 27.2                                   | 56.3                          | 61.8                                   |
| \$15,000–24,999                                 | 8.7                                    | 36.4                          | 41.6                                   |
| \$25,000 or greater                             | 16.2                                   | 51.1                          | 56.5                                   |

**Table 7.8b—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who were not enrolled as of 1998 and who reported working, the percentage reporting various job enhancements as a result of their enrollment, by demographic characteristics and persistence risk factors when first enrolled  
—Continued**

|   | Degree/certificate<br>required for job | Able to earn<br>higher salary | Able to take on<br>more responsibility |
|---|--|-------------------------------|--|
| Number of risk factors when first enrolled* |  |                               |  |
| None  | 11.0                                   | 40.5                          | 54.4                                   |
| One   | 8.9                                    | 49.0                          | 60.1                                   |
| Two or three                                | 13.3                                   | 39.1                          | 45.9                                   |
| Four or more                                | 16.5                                   | 47.2                          | 52.9                                   |
| Delayed postsecondary enrollment            |  |                               |  |
| Did not delay                               | 8.2                                    | 35.8                          | 49.0                                   |
| Delayed                                     | 15.0                                   | 48.3                          | 54.6                                   |
| Dependency status when first enrolled       |  |                               |  |
| Dependent                                   | 8.3                                    | 40.4                          | 53.4                                   |
| Independent                                 | 18.2                                   | 47.6                          | 51.7                                   |
| Number of children when first enrolled      |  |                               |  |
| None  | 9.3                                    | 39.5                          | 49.7                                   |
| One or more                                 | 22.1                                   | 53.3                          | 58.5                                   |
| Worked while enrolled 1995–96               |  |                               |  |
| Did not work                                | 24.2                                   | 54.3                          | 59.6                                   |
| Worked part time                            | 10.6                                   | 37.9                          | 46.3                                   |
| Worked full time                            | 10.2                                   | 42.2                          | 52.5                                   |

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

\*Risk factors include 1) part-time attendance; 2) delayed postsecondary enrollment; 3) financially independent from parents; 4) work full-time while enrolled; 5) have dependents; 6) single parent; and 7) dropped out of high school or completed with GED/Alternative credential.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.9—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began at less-than-4-year institutions and were not enrolled as of 1998, the percentage distribution according to employment status, by degree attainment and applied field of study**

|  | Currently working | Out of labor force | Currently looking for work |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Attained degree or certificate, not enrolled in 1998 |                   |                    |                            |
| Total  | 80.3              | 10.8               | 9.0                        |
| Applied fields of study 1995–96                      |                   |                    |                            |
| Business/secretarial                                 | 84.0              | 10.8               | 5.2                        |
| Nursing/allied health                                | 72.9              | 16.9               | 10.2                       |
| Technology/mechanical                                | 88.4              | 6.5                | 5.1                        |
| Cosmetology  | 73.2              | 11.9               | 14.9                       |
| All other fields                                     | 76.5              | 13.6               | 9.9                        |
| No degree or certificate, not enrolled in 1998       |                   |                    |                            |
| Total  | 83.4              | 9.7                | 6.9                        |
| Applied fields of study 1995–96                      |                   |                    |                            |
| Business/secretarial                                 | 85.7              | 6.8                | 7.6                        |
| Nursing/allied health                                | 83.6              | 8.9                | 7.5                        |
| Technology/mechanical                                | 86.1              | 4.9                | 9.0                        |
| Cosmetology  | 58.7              | 26.5               | 14.9                       |
| All other fields                                     | 83.1              | 11.7               | 5.2                        |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.10—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began at less-than-4-year institutions and were not enrolled as of 1998 and who reported working, the percentage distribution of average hours worked per week, the average number of hours worked per week, and the annual starting salary among those working full time, by degree attainment and applied field of study**

|  | 1–24<br>hours | 25–34<br>hours | 5 or more<br>hours | Average<br>hours worked | Median full-time<br>starting salary |
|--|---------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Attained degree or certificate, not enrolled in 1998 |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| Total  | 7.3           | 15.3           | 77.5               | 38.5                    | \$14,940                            |
| Applied fields of study 1995–96                      |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| Business/secretarial                                 | 3.9           | 23.6           | 72.5               | 37.7                    | 14,576                              |
| Nursing/allied health                                | 2.7           | 18.3           | 79.0               | 38.3                    | 13,193                              |
| Technology/mechanical                                | 9.4           | 2.4            | 88.2               | 40.9                    | 15,767                              |
| Cosmetology  | 15.5          | 14.8           | 69.7               | 36.3                    | 8,560                               |
| All other fields                                     | 5.9           | 22.8           | 71.3               | 37.5                    | 17,688                              |
| No degree or certificate, not enrolled in 1998       |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| Total  | 10.5          | 10.8           | 78.7               | 38.9                    | 15,056                              |
| Applied fields of study 1995–96                      |               |                |                    |                         |                                     |
| Business/secretarial                                 | 13.6          | 7.2            | 79.3               | 37.1                    | 17,667                              |
| Nursing/allied health                                | 14.9          | 19.5           | 65.6               | 34.4                    | 11,942                              |
| Technology/mechanical                                | 3.8           | 10.5           | 85.7               | 42.7                    | 19,567                              |
| Cosmetology  | 1.9           | 23.7           | 74.4               | 38.2                    | 11,612                              |
| All other fields                                     | 11.9          | 8.2            | 80.0               | 39.4                    | 14,851                              |

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

**Table 7.11—Among 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students who began at less-than-4-year institutions and were not enrolled as of 1998 and who reported working, the percentage reporting various job enhancements related to enrollment, by degree attainment and applied field of study**

|  | Degree/certificate<br>required for job | Able to earn<br>higher salary | Able to take on<br>more responsibility |
|--|--|-------------------------------|--|
| Attained degree or certificate, not enrolled in 1998 |  |                               |  |
| Total  | 30.4                                   | 67.2                          | 70.5                                   |
| Applied fields of study 1995–96                      |  |                               |  |
| Business/secretarial                                 | 16.6                                   | 66.1                          | 63.3                                   |
| Nursing/allied health                                | 55.7                                   | 84.3                          | 88.2                                   |
| Technology/mechanical                                | 19.7                                   | 62.1                          | 71.3                                   |
| Cosmetology  | 54.7                                   | 78.8                          | 83.2                                   |
| All other fields                                     | 17.0                                   | 47.6                          | 50.4                                   |
| No degree or certificate, not enrolled in 1998       |  |                               |  |
| Total  | 6.9                                    | 34.4                          | 45.2                                   |
| Applied fields of study 1995–96                      |  |                               |  |
| Business/secretarial                                 | 3.8                                    | 37.5                          | 44.9                                   |
| Nursing/allied health                                | 19.9                                   | 37.0                          | 34.8                                   |
| Technology/mechanical                                | 16.5                                   | 43.6                          | 59.0                                   |
| Cosmetology  | 25.8                                   | 20.4                          | 39.2                                   |
| All other fields                                     | 2.3                                    | 33.0                          | 46.2                                   |

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

## Appendix A—Glossary

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This glossary describes the variables used in this report. The items were taken directly from the BPS:98, Data Analysis System (DAS); see appendix B for a description of the DAS. The variables used in this analysis were either items taken directly from the surveys or derived by combining one or more items in these surveys.

The variables listed in the index below are in the order they appear in the report; the glossary is in alphabetical order by DAS variable name displayed along the right-hand column.

### Glossary Index

#### INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Type of first institution .....ITNPSAS  
Level of first institution.....ITNPLV  
Control of first institution .....ITNPCT  
Highest offering of first institution.....ITNPSAS2

#### PROGRAM AND PURPOSE

Degree program at first institution ..... DGPGMY1  
Degree goal at first institution... DGEXPY1/PGM4Y1  
Transfer or degree expectation..... PGM7Y1  
Program/field at first institution ..... PGM1Y1  
Purpose for enrolling ..... PGM6Y1  
Applied field of study ..... PGM8Y1

#### PERSISTENCE AND ATTAINMENT

Total 3-year persistence and attainment/Attainment and persistence by degree goal .....PRENRLB1  
Attainment and retention at first institution .....PRSIB1  
Attainment and last year of enrollment 1995–98 ..... PRENYRB1  
Highest degree attained/Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained.....DGRETYB1  
First type of degree attained/First type of sub-baccalaureate degree attained .....DGRE1  
Number of months enrolled through 1998 ..... ENNUTTB1  
Intensity pattern through last month enrolled 1995–98 ..... ENIPTTB1  
Academic year of last enrollment.....PRENLAB1  
Transfer status/First transfer direction .... PRTRTYB1  
Enrollment continuity through 1998 ..... ENSENUB1

#### STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS WHEN FIRST ENROLLED

Gender .....SBGENDER  
Age during first month enrolled..... SBAGFM  
Race/ethnicity ..... SBRACEI  
Marital status and children when first enrolled ..... SBMRCHY1  
Parental education..... PBEDHI3  
Dependent family income .....SFINDP94  
Independent student income 1994.....SFININ94  
Student/employee role .....SEROLEY1  
Number of risk factors when first enrolled ..... SBRISK1Y1  
High school diploma or equivalency status ..... HSDIPLOM  
Delayed postsecondary enrollment ..... ENDELAY  
Attendance status when began at first institution ..... ENINFM  
Dependency status when began at first institution ..... SBDEP1Y1  
Number of children when first enrolled ..... SBDPNY1  
Single parent status .....SBSINGY1  
Worked while enrolled 1995–96..... J1HOURY1

#### ACADEMIC PREPARATION

Met high math/science curriculum.....HCBASIC4  
Number of Advanced Placement tests taken..... TEAPNUMB  
Grade point average in high school..... HCGPAREP  
Derived SAT combined score ..... TESATDER

**FINANCIAL AID**

Received any aid/Average total aid  
amount ..... AATOTLY1  
Received grants/Average grant  
amount ..... AAGRNTY1  
Received loans/Average loan amount ..... AALON1Y1

**EFFECTS OF EMPLOYMENT WHILE ENROLLED**

Limits choice of classes ..... ESCLCHY1  
Assists with class content ..... ESCLCNY1  
Limits number of classes ..... ESCLNUY1  
Limits class schedule ..... ESSCHEY1

**REASONS FOR ENROLLING (EMPLOYEES)**

Earn postsecondary credential ..... EEDEGRY1  
Learn new job skills ..... EELEARY1

Advance in job ..... EEADVAY1  
Required by job ..... EEREQUY1  
Personal interest ..... EEPERSY1  
For recreation ..... EERECRY1

**POST-ENROLLMENT EMPLOYMENT**

Employment status in 1998 ..... JFSTAT98  
Average hours worked per week ..... JFHOURB1  
Full-time starting salary ..... JFINCOB1  
Degree or certificate required ..... JFDEG1B1  
Able to earn higher salary ..... JFESALB1  
Able to take on more responsibility ..... JFERESB1  
Have better job opportunities ..... JFEOPPB1  
Relationship between current and past  
employment ..... JFNEWB1

***Received grants/Average grant amount*****AAGRNTY1**

Indicates whether student received grants and the average total amount of all grants federal, state, institutional, and private sector received during 1995–96. Includes employer tuition reimbursements.

***Received loans/Average loan amount*****AALON1Y1**

Indicates whether student received loans and the average total amount of all loans federal, state, institutional, and private sector received during 1995–96, excluding PLUS loans.

***Received any aid/Average aid amount*****AATOTLY1**

Indicates where student received any aid and the average total amount of financial aid received during 1995–96. Includes all grant, loan, work-study, and other assistance, including PLUS loans, veteran’s and military benefits, vocational rehabilitation, JTPA, employer aid, and private aid.

***Degree goal at first institution*****DGEXPY1**

Highest degree expected at the first institution attended in 1995–96. Responses for any degree of BA or higher, plus those planning to transfer to a 4-year institution were coded as bachelor’s/transfer. Those planning no degree at that institution or planning to transfer from one less-than-4-year institution to another were also coded as having no degree expectation. Responses of higher degrees than were offered at the institution were assumed to be planning to transfer.

None  
 Certificate  
 Associate’s degree  
 Bachelor’s degree or transfer to 4-year

***Degree program at first institution*****DGPGMY1**

First type of degree program at the first institution attended in 1995–96. This is a composite variable based primarily on the student interview response to the type of program. Missing or contradictory responses were coded based on the program indicated by the institution, the student’s degree expectation, field of study, and level of degrees actually offered. Students at 2-year institutions who intended to transfer were classified in associate’s degree programs.

Vocational certificate  
 Associate’s degree  
 Bachelor’s degree

***First type of degree attained/First sub-baccalaureate degree attained*****DGRE1**

First type of degree attained through June 1998. For first sub-baccalaureate credential attained, the category “bachelor’s degree” was dropped from the categories below because of the small sample size.

None  
 Certificate  
 Associate’s degree  
 Bachelor’s degree

***Highest degree attained/Highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained***

**DGRETYB1**

Combinations of types of degrees attained through June 1998. The possible response categories are as follows:

- None
- Attained certificate only
- Attained associate's degree only
- Attained bachelor's degree only
- Attained certificate and associate's degree
- Attained certificate and bachelor's degree
- Attained certificate, associate's degree, and bachelor's degree

For this analysis, the response categories were aggregated as follows:

- None
- Certificate
- Associate's degree
- Bachelor's degree

For highest sub-baccalaureate degree attained, the category "bachelor's degree" was dropped because of the small sample size.

***Advance in job***

**EEADVAY1**

Students who were employed and who identified as employees who decided to enroll were asked, "Were each of the following important considerations in your decision to go to school while working: to gain skills for advancement in current job (EEADVAY1), to complete a degree or certificate program (EEDEGRY1), to gain skills needed for a new job or career (EELEARY1), personal enrichment or interest in the subject (EEPERSY1), for recreation (EERECRY1)?" Asked in NPSAS:96 student CATI (Yes/No).

***Earn postsecondary credential***

**EEDEGRY1**

Students who were employed and who identified as employees who decided to enroll were asked, whether completing a degree or certificate program was an important considerations in the decision to go to school while working. For complete description see EEADVAY1. Asked in NPSAS:96 student CATI (Yes/No).

***Learn new job skills***

**EELEARY1**

Students who were employed and who identified as employees who decided to enroll were asked, whether gaining skills needed for a new job or career was an important considerations in the decision to go to school while working. For complete description see EEADVAY1. Asked in NPSAS:96 student CATI (Yes/No).

***Personal interest***

**EEPERSY1**

Students who were employed and who identified as employees who decided to enroll were asked, whether personal enrichment or interest in the subject was an important considerations in the decision to go to school while working. For complete description see EEADVAY1. Asked in NPSAS:96 student CATI (Yes/No).

***For recreation*****EERECRY1**

Students who were employed and who identified as employees who decided to enroll were asked, whether recreation was an important considerations in the decision to go to school while working. For complete description see EEADVAY1. Asked in NPSAS:96 student CATI (Yes/No).

***Required by job*****EEREQUY1**

Students who were employed and who identified as employees who decided to enroll were asked, whether enrollment requirement for employment in current job was an important considerations in the decision to go to school while working. For complete description see EEADVAY1. Asked in NPSAS:96 student CATI (Yes/No).

***Delayed postsecondary enrollment*****ENDELAY**

Indicates whether respondents delayed enrollment in postsecondary education, as determined by receipt of high school diploma prior to 1995 or reaching age 20 before December 31, 1995.

Did not delay  
Delayed

***Attendance status when began at first institution*****ENINFM**

Indicates the intensity of first month enrolled 1995–98. Based primarily on institutional records.

Full time  
Part time

***Intensity pattern through last month enrolled 1995–98*****ENIPTTB1**

Pattern of enrollment intensity during months enrolled at all institutions, through June 1998. Attendance pattern refers to the student's full-time, part-time, or mixed attendance while enrolled.

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Always full time | Students were enrolled full time for all months enrolled through 1998.  |
| Mixed            | Students were enrolled both full time and part time or had some other pattern of enrollment during enrolled months. |
| Always part time | Students were enrolled exclusively part time during enrolled months.  |

***Number of months enrolled through 1998*****ENNUTTB1**

Total number of months enrolled at any institution through June 1998.

Less than 12 months  
12–24 months  
25 months or more

***Enrollment continuity through 1988***

**ENSENUB1**

Count of spells of continuous enrollment at any institution each separated by more than four months of nonenrollment, through June 1998.

Continuously enrolled

Student was continuously enrolled without any interruption of more than 4 months.

Not continuously enrolled

Student was enrolled for more than one spell, separated by more than 4 months.

***Limits choice of classes***

**ESCLCHY1**

Students who were employed and who identified as a student working to meet expenses were asked, “Did having a job: restrict your choice of classes (ECLCHY1)?; assist with class subjects (ESCLCNY1)?; limit the number of classes you could take (ESCLUNUY1)?; limit class schedule (ESSCHEY1)?” Asked on NPSAS:96 CATI (Yes/No).

***Assists with class content***

**ESCLCNY1**

Students who were employed and who identified as a student working to meet expenses were asked whether having a job assists with class subjects. For complete description, see ESCLCHY1. Asked on NPSAS:96 CATI (Yes/No).

***Limits number of classes***

**ESCLNUY1**

Students who were employed and who identified as a student working to meet expenses were asked whether having a job limits the number of classes he/she could take. For complete description, see ESCLCHY1. Asked on NPSAS:96 CATI (Yes/No).

***Limits class schedule***

**ESSCHEY1**

Students who were employed and who identified as a student working to meet expenses were asked whether having a job limits class schedules. For complete description, see ESCLCHY1. Asked on NPSAS:96 CATI (Yes/No).

***Met high math/science curriculum***

**HCBASIC4**

Indicates whether student has completed or was planning to complete a math/science high school curriculum of four years each of English, math, and science, three years of social studies, and two years of foreign language, according to self-report on standardized test questionnaire. Applies only to students who took the SAT or ACT (95 percent of beginners at 4-year institutions).

Did not meet threshold

Met curriculum threshold

***Grade point average in high school*****HCGPAREP**

High school grade point average on the standardized test date, according to self-report on test questionnaire. For a number of students, both SAT and ACT score reports were available. In these cases, high school grade and curriculum information from the more recent test date was used. Applies only to students who took the SAT or ACT.

B or less  
B+ to A-  
Mostly As

***High school diploma or equivalency status*****HSDIPLOM**

Indicates type of high school degree reported by the sample institution or, if not available, by the student. If student-reported information was used, it was collected from the CATI and in response to the question, “Did you receive a high school diploma, pass a General Educational Development (GED) test, or receive a high school completion certificate?”

Students who attended foreign high schools were coded as receiving a high school completion certificate.

High school diploma  
GED or high school equivalent  
None

***Control of first institution*****ITNPCT**

Control of the first institution attended 1995–96.

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Public                  | A postsecondary education institution supported primarily by public funds and operated by publicly elected or appointed officials who control the programs and activities. |
| Private, not-for-profit | A postsecondary institution that is controlled by an independent governing board and incorporated under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.                  |
| Private, for-profit     | A postsecondary institution that is privately owned and operated as a profit-making enterprise. Includes career colleges and proprietary institutions.                     |

***Level of first institution*****ITNPLV**

Highest award offering of student’s first institution attended 1995–96.

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| 4-year | Denotes 4-year institutions that can award bachelor’s degrees or higher, including institutions that award doctorate degrees and first-professional degrees. These include chiropractic, pharmacy, dentistry, podiatry, medicine, veterinary medicine, optometry, law, osteopathic medicine, and theology. |
|--------|--|

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 2-year           | Institution that does not confer bachelor's degrees, but does provide 2-year programs that result in a certificate or an associate's degree, or 2-year programs that fulfill part of the requirements for a bachelor's degree or higher at 4-year institutions. |
| Less than 2-year | At least one of the programs offered at the institution is three months or longer, and produces a terminal award or certificate. In addition, no program at the institution lasts longer than two years.  |

***Type of first institution***

**ITNPSAS**

Level and control of the first institution attended. The sample size of beginners at less-than-2-year private, not-for-profit institutions was too small to report.

- 4-year
  - Public
  - Private, not-for-profit
  - Private, for-profit
- 2-year
  - Public
  - Private, not-for-profit
  - Private, for-profit
- Less-than-2-year
  - Public
  - Private, for-profit

***Highest offering of first institution***

**ITNPSAS2**

The highest degree offered at the first 4-year institution attended. Indicates whether the institution offered doctorate or first-professional degrees.

- Doctorate-granting
- Nondoctorate-granting

***Worked while enrolled 1995–96***

**J1HOURY1**

Indicates the average hours the student worked per week while enrolled during 1995–96, based on student's report of average hours worked per week while enrolled during 1995–96. Full time is defined as working 35 or more hours per week.

- Did not work
- Worked part time
- Worked full time

***Degree/certificate required for job*****JFDEG1B1**

Students who reported post-enrollment employment were asked, “Was a degree such as a bachelor’s or associate’s degree or a postsecondary certificate required by your employer as a condition for working as a/an [OCCUPATION]?” Respondents who held more than one job after graduating or leaving school were asked to focus on the one job in which they worked the most hours per week. Asked on student CATI (Yes/No).

***Have better job opportunities*****JFEOPP1**

Students who reported post-enrollment employment were asked, “Has attending [MOST RECENT SCHOOL] provided you with opportunities for better jobs than you could have gotten had you not attended [MOST RECENT SCHOOL]?” Respondents who held more than one job after graduating or leaving school were asked to focus on the one job in which they worked the most hours per week. Asked on student CATI (Yes/No).

***Able to take on more responsibility*****JFERESB1**

Students who reported post-enrollment were asked, “Are you able to take on more responsibility on the job than you would have had you not attended [MOST RECENT SCHOOL]?” Respondents who held more than one job after graduating or leaving school were asked to focus on the one job in which they worked the most hours per week. Asked on student CATI (Yes/No).

***Able to earn higher salary*****JFESALB1**

Students who reported post-enrollment employment were asked, “Are you able to earn higher salaries than you would have had you not attended [MOST RECENT SCHOOL]?” Respondents who held more than one job after graduating or leaving school were asked to focus on the one job in which they worked the most hours per week. Asked on student CATI (Yes/No).

***Average hours worked per week*****JFHOURB1**

Students not enrolled at the time of the first follow-up interview were asked, “When you first worked as a/an [OCCUPATION] after graduating from/leaving [MOST RECENT SCHOOL], how many hours did you work each week?” Respondents who held more than one job after graduating or leaving school were asked to focus on the one job in which they worked the most hours per week. Imputed to zero if respondent has not worked since leaving post-secondary education. Asked on student CATI.

***Full-time starting salary*****JFINCOB1**

Students not enrolled at the time of the first follow-up interview were asked, “What was your annual salary for the job at the time you graduated from/left school? [OR] What was your annual starting salary for the job?” Respondents who held more than one job after graduating or leaving school were asked to focus on the one job in which they worked the most hours per week. This analysis looks at median full-time starting salary. Asked on student CATI.

***Relationship between current and past employment*****JFNEWB1**

For students who reported post-enrollment employment, indicates whether held same or new job and same or new employer at first job held after leaving postsecondary education.

New employer new job  
Same employer new job  
Same employer same job  
More than one job after leaving

***Employment status in 1998***

**JFSTAT98**

If respondent indicated working after enrollment, then respondent was coded as working in 1998. If respondent reported currently looking for work, respondent was coded as looking, otherwise respondent was coded as out of the labor force.

Currently working  
Looking for work  
Out of labor force

***Parental education***

**PBEDHI3**

Aggregated educational level of parent with greater educational attainment, as reported by the parent respondent, or the student, if no parent CATI was obtained. Reflects editing of father's or mother's education based on father's or mother's occupation, where occupational and educational levels were discrepant.

High school diploma or less  
Some postsecondary education  
Bachelor's degree  
Advanced degree

***Program/field at first institution***

**PGM1Y1**

For students beginning at less than 4-year institutions only, this variable indicates the first type of degree program in which the student was enrolled at the first institution attended. Applied associate's degree fields generally include computer science, engineering, business, health, and early childhood education. Liberal arts generally include humanities, social sciences, life and physical sciences, and mathematics, as well as education beyond early childhood, pre-law, and pre-medical courses of study.

Certificate  
Associate's—applied fields  
Associate's—liberal arts/uncertain

***Degree goal at first institution***

**PGM4Y1**

For students beginning at less than 4-year institutions only, this variable indicates highest level of education that the student expected to complete at the first institution attended. Students reporting no degree and no transfer, or transfer to a 2-year school were coded as expecting no degree at this institution. The same as DGEXPY1, but includes additional cases with values imputed from responses to related questions.

None  
Certificate  
Associate's  
Transfer 4-year/bachelor's

***Purpose for enrolling*****PGM6Y1**

For students beginning at less than 4-year institutions only, this variable indicates the primary reason for enrolling at the first institution. It is based on prior response to highest degree expected at the institution. The wording of this question varied depending on the student's expectations regarding the receipt of a degree from the first institution. Students who did not expect to receive any degree or to receive a vocational certificate were asked, "Are you enrolled for a job-related reason or some other reason?" All others were asked: "What is your primary reason for enrolling in this school?" Asked on student CATI. The interviewers had the following choice of response categories:

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Job skills            |   |
| Degree or certificate |   |
| Transfer to 2-year    |   |
| Transfer to 4-year    |   |
| Other                 | Includes transfer, not sure where; and personal enrichment/other. |

***Transfer or degree expectation*****PGM7Y1**

For students beginning at less than 4-year institutions only, this variable indicates whether the student expected to receive a degree at the first institution attended or expected to transfer to a 4-year institution, and combinations of the two. Composite variable based on other program/purpose variables PGM4Y1 and PGM6Y1. Students who responded that they intended to transfer to a 4-year institution on any of these variables were coded as having transfer expectations; the others were coded as having no 4-year institution transfer expectations. Those who indicated on any of these variables that they did not intend to get a degree at the first institution (including transfers) were coded as having no degree expectation at that institution; the others were coded as having degree expectations.

|                        |
|------------------------|
| No degree, no transfer |
| Degree, no transfer    |
| Degree, transfer       |
| No degree, transfer    |

***Applied field of study*****PGM8Y1**

For students beginning at less-than-4-year institutions only, this variable indicates the applied and vocational fields of study during the first year at less-than-4-year institutions. The most frequently indicated fields are shown. Liberal arts and undeclared majors are excluded. Based on student-reported degree programs and majors, reclassified.

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Business/secretarial  |  |
| Nursing/allied health |  |
| Cosmetology           |  |
| Other                 | Includes Technology/mechanical, Computers/data processing, Early childhood/childcare, Criminal justices/paralegal, All other applied fields. |

***Academic year of last enrollment***

**PRENLB1**

Indicates the academic year during or after which the student was no longer enrolled in postsecondary education. Academic year defined as months from July of first year through June of next year, inclusive.

1995–96  
1996–97  
1997–98

***Total 3-year persistence and attainment***

**PRENLB1**

Identifies whether students had attained a degree by June 1998 and whether or not they were enrolled during spring 1998 by level of institution. Enrollment during any month from February through June 1998 constitutes enrollment during spring 1998. All possible categories are as follows:

No degree, not enrolled  
No degree, enrolled at less-than-2-year  
No degree, enrolled at 2-year  
No degree, enrolled at 4-year  
Attained certificate's, not enrolled  
Attained certificate's, enrolled at less-than-2-year  
Attained certificate's, enrolled at 2-year  
Attained certificate's, enrolled at 4-year  
Attained associate's degree, not enrolled  
Attained associate's degree, enrolled at less-than-2-year  
Attained associate's degree, enrolled at 2-year  
Attained associate's degree, enrolled at 4-year  
Attained bachelor's degree, not enrolled  
Attained bachelor's degree, enrolled less-than--2-year  
Attained bachelor's degree, enrolled at 2-year  
Attained bachelor's degree, enrolled at 4-year

For this analysis, the categories were aggregated as follows:

Attained, not enrolled  
Attained, enrolled  
No degree, enrolled  
No degree, not enrolled

***Attainment and persistence by degree goal***

**PRENLB1**

Aggregated version of total 3-year persistence variable for analysis by the student's degree goals (certificate, associate's degree, or bachelor's degree)

Attained certificate  
Attained associate's degree  
Attained bachelor's degree  
No degree, enrolled at less-than-4-year  
No degree, enrolled at 4-year  
No degree, not enrolled

***Attainment and last year of enrollment 1995–98*****PRENYRB1**

Identifies whether students had attained a degree by June 1998, and if not, their last academic year of enrollment in postsecondary education.

No degree, last year 1995–96  
 No degree, last year 1996–97  
 No degree, last year 1997–98  
 No degree, enrolled spring 1998  
 Attained degree by spring 1998

***Attainment and retention at first institution*****PRSIB1**

Identifies the outcome of the first institutional spell. The first institutional spell is the first spell of continuous enrollment at the first institution. For those who attained a degree prior to the spell end, the variable identifies the degree attained. For those who did not attain prior to the spell end, the variable distinguishes whether the student is still enrolled at the first institution in spring 1998, experienced a stopout and returned to the NPSAS institution, experienced a stopout and enrolled at new institution, experienced an immediate transfer to a new institution, or left postsecondary education without return at the end of the spell. All possible categories are as follows:

Continuous, no transfer, attained bachelor's degree  
 Continuous, no transfer, attained associate's degree  
 Continuous, no transfer, attained certificate  
 No degree, continuous, enrolled at institution  
 No degree, stopout, returned to institution  
 No degree, stopout, enrolled at new institution  
 No degree, no stopout, enrolled at new institution  
 No degree, left without return

For this analysis, the categories were aggregated as follows:

Attained bachelor's degree  
 Attained associate's degree  
 Attained certificate  
 Still enrolled  
 Left without return  
 Transferred

***Transfer status/First transfer direction*****PRTRTYB1**

Identifies the type of first transfer among students who transferred by June 1998. Immediate transfers are those occurring without a break in enrollment of more than four months, and thus occur within the first enrollment spell. Delayed transfers are those which occur following a stopout of five or more months. A downward transfer is a move from one institution to a lower level institution. Upward or lateral transfers are those involving a move from one institution to another with an equal or higher level. All possible response categories are as follows:

Did not transfer by spring 1988  
 Immediate, downward transfer  
 Immediate, upward/lateral transfer  
 Delayed, downward transfer  
 Delayed, upward/lateral transfer

For this analysis, the categories were aggregated as follows:

- Did not transfer
- Transferred
- Downward transfer
- Upward or lateral transfer

***Age during first month enrolled***

**SBAGFM**

Respondent's age, calculated from date of birth and first month enrolled, on the first day of the first month enrolled in postsecondary education.

- 18 years or younger
- 19 years
- 20–23 years
- 24–29 years
- 30 or older

***Dependency status when began at first institution***

**SBDEP1Y1**

Student dependency status in 1995–96. Students were considered independent if

1. Student was 24 years old or older as of 12/31/1995;
2. Student was a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces;
3. Student was married;
4. Student was an orphan or ward of the court;
5. Student had legal dependents, other than spouse; or
6. Student could document self-sufficiency or lack of parental support.

- Dependent
- Independent

***Number of children when first enrolled***

**SBDPNY1**

Number of dependent children of respondent in 1995.

- None
- One or more

***Gender***

**SBGENDER**

Student gender based on student- or institution-reported gender.

- Male
- Female

***Marital status and children when first enrolled*****SBMRCHY1**

Marital status, dependency, and whether respondent had dependent children in 1995.

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Single, no children (dependent)   |  |
| Single, no children (independent) |  |
| Single with children              |  |
| Married                           | Includes students who were married with no children and married with children. |

***Race/ethnicity*****SBRACECI**

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| White, non-Hispanic            | A person having origins in any of the original people of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East (except those of Hispanic origin).  |
| Black, non-Hispanic            | A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa, not of Hispanic origin.  |
| Hispanic                       | A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.  |
| Asian/Pacific Islander         | A person having origins in any of the peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or Pacific Islands. This includes people from China, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, Samoa, India, and Vietnam. |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native | A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.  |

***Number of risk factors when first enrolled*****SBRSK1Y1**

The sum of 7 characteristics known to adversely affect persistence and attainment. Characteristics include:

1. Delayed enrollment,
2. No high school diploma including GED recipients
3. Part-time enrollment
4. Financial independence
5. Having dependents other than spouse
6. Single parent status,
7. Working full-time while enrolled 35 hours or more.

For this analysis, the categories were aggregated as follows:

None  
One  
Two or three  
Four or more

***Single parent status***

**SBSINGY1**

Indicates whether student had dependents and was not married during 1995–96.

Not a single parent  
Single parent

***Student/employee role***

**SEROLEY1**

Student’s response to CATI question in NPSAS:96: “While you were enrolled and working, would you say you were primarily a student working to meet expenses or an employee who’s decided to enroll in school?”

Did not work while enrolled  
Student working to meet expenses  
Employee who’s decided to enroll

***Dependent family income***

**SFINDP94**

Total income of parents of dependent student during the 1994 calendar year. Categories represent family income quartiles of beginning dependent students.

Less than \$25,000  
\$25,000–44,999  
45,000–69,999  
70,000 or greater

***Income of independent student 1994***

**SFININ94**

Total income for independent students (and spouse) during 1994 calendar. Categories represent beginning independent student income quartiles.

Less than 6,000  
6,000–14,999  
15,000–24,999  
25,000 or greater

***Number of Advanced Placement tests taken***

**TEAPNUMB**

Student response to question, “Did you take any advanced placement tests? Which ones did you take and what was your score?” Asked on NPSAS:96 student CATI. The categories for this analysis are:

None  
One  
More than one

**Derived SAT combined score****TESATDER**

Student's Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT I Reasoning Test) combined score, which is either the sum of SAT verbal and mathematics scores or the ACT Assessment (American College Testing program) composite score converted to an estimated SAT combined score using a concordance table.<sup>38</sup> Constructed from agency-reported, institution-reported, or student-reported SAT or ACT scores in the following order of precedence (with corresponding percentages of beginning postsecondary students):

1. Agency-reported (ETS) SAT verbal and math scores (30%);
2. Agency-reported (ACT) ACT composite scores (22%);
3. Institution-reported (CADE) SAT verbal and math scores (2%);
4. Institution-reported (CADE) ACT composite scores (1%);
5. Student-reported (CATI) SAT verbal and math scores (1%);
6. Student-reported (CATI) ACT composite scores (1%).

All SAT scores are provided in original (not recentered) scale. Applies to cases having any reported ACT composite score or SAT verbal and mathematics scores (56 percent of all beginning postsecondary students and 95 percent of those beginning at 4-year institutions). For this analysis, the scores were aggregated according to the lowest, two middle, and highest quartiles in the BPS sample.

Lowest quartile (400–700)  
Middle quartiles (710–1020)  
High quartile (1030–1600)

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<sup>38</sup>G. Marco, A. Abdel-Fattah, and B. Barton. *Methods Used to Establish Score Comparability on the Enhanced ACT Assessment and the SAT* (College Board Report 92–3) (New York: College Entrance Examination Board, 1992).

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## Appendix B—Technical Notes and Methodology

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### The Beginning Postsecondary Student Longitudinal Study (BPS:96/98)

The Beginning Postsecondary Student Longitudinal Study (BPS) is composed of the students who participated in the 1995–96 National Postsecondary Student Aid Survey (NPSAS:96) who enrolled in postsecondary education for the first time in 1995–96. The National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS) is a comprehensive nationwide study conducted by the U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) to determine how students and their families pay for postsecondary education.<sup>39</sup> It also describes demographic and other characteristics of students enrolled. The study is based on a nationally representative sample of all students in postsecondary education institutions, including undergraduate, graduate, and first-professional students. For NPSAS:96, information was obtained from more than 830 postsecondary institutions on approximately 44,500 undergraduate, 8,700 graduate, and 2,500 first-professional students. They represented about 16.7 million undergraduates, 2.4 million graduate students, and 300,000 first-professional students who were enrolled at some time between July 1, 1995 and June 30, 1996.

The BPS sample consists of approximately 12,000 students identified in NPSAS:96 who were beginning postsecondary education for the first time. Unlike other NCES longitudinal surveys (such as High School and Beyond) which are based on age-specific cohorts, the BPS sample is more likely to include some of the increasing numbers of “nontraditional” postsecondary students, such as those who have delayed their education due to financial need or family responsibilities. The first follow-up of the BPS cohort (BPS:96/98) occurred in the spring and summer of 1998, approximately 3 years after they first enrolled. Approximately 10,300 of the students who first began in 1995–96 were located and interviewed in the first follow-up. The weighted effective response rate for potential members of the BPS cohort in the NPSAS:96 base year was 77.6 percent. The weighted effective response rate in the 1998 follow-up of the NPSAS:96 respon-

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<sup>39</sup>For more information on the NPSAS survey, consult U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Methodology Report for the 1995–96 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study* (NCES 98–073) (Washington, DC: 1997). Additional information is also available at the NPSAS website <http://nces.ed.gov/npsas>.

dents was 85.9 percent. The overall weighted response rate (including those who were nonrespondents in NPSAS:96) for the BPS:96/98 first follow-up was 79.8 percent.<sup>40</sup>

The BPS:96/98 Data Analysis System includes a sample weight for cross-sectional analysis of the students in 1995–96 (B98IAWT) and for longitudinal analysis of the sample through 1998 (B98AWT). All of the tables and estimates in this report used the longitudinal analysis weight.

## Accuracy of Estimates

The statistics in this report are estimates derived from a sample. Two broad categories of error occur in such estimates: sampling and nonsampling errors. Sampling errors occur because observations are made only on samples of students, not entire populations. Nonsampling errors occur not only in sample surveys but also in complete censuses of entire populations. Nonsampling errors can be attributed to a number of sources: inability to obtain complete information about all students in all institutions in the sample (some students or institutions refused to participate, or students participated but answered only certain items); ambiguous definitions; differences in interpreting questions; inability or unwillingness to give correct information; mistakes in recording or coding data; and other errors of collecting, processing, sampling, and imputing missing data.

## Data Analysis System

The estimates presented in this report were produced using the BPS:98 Data Analysis Systems (DAS). The DAS software makes it possible for users to specify and generate their own tables from the BPS:98 data. With the DAS, users can replicate or expand upon the tables presented in this report. In addition to the table estimates, the DAS calculates proper standard errors<sup>41</sup> and weighted sample sizes for these estimates. For example, table B1 contains standard errors that correspond to table 1 in the essay of this report, and was generated by the DAS. If the number of valid cases is too small to produce a reliable estimate (less than 30 cases), the DAS prints the message “low-N” instead of the estimate.

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<sup>40</sup>For more information on the BPS:96/98 survey, consult U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study First Follow-up 1996–98, Methodology Report* (NCES 2000–157) (Washington, DC: 2000).

<sup>41</sup>The BPS:98 samples are not simple random samples and, therefore, simple random sample techniques for estimating sampling error cannot be applied to these data. The DAS takes into account the complexity of the sampling procedures and calculates standard errors appropriate for such samples. The method for computing sampling errors used by the DAS involves approximating the estimator by the linear terms of a Taylor series expansion. The procedure is typically referred to as the Taylor series method.

**Table B1—Standard errors for table 1.1: Percentage distribution of 1995–96 beginning postsecondary students according to the highest degree attained and 3-year persistence and attainment status as of spring 1998, by first institution attended and first degree program**

|  | Highest degree attained |             |             |            | Total 3-year persistence and attainment |                       |                           |                                  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | None                    | Certificate | Associate's | Bachelor's | Attained,<br>not<br>enrolled            | Attained,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>enrolled | No<br>degree,<br>not<br>enrolled |
|  |                         |             | degree      | degree     |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Total                                      | 0.9                     | 0.8         | 0.6         | 0.1        | 0.8                                     | 0.5                   | 1.1                       | 1.0                              |
| Type of first institution                  |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| 4-year                                     |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Public                                     | 0.5                     | 0.3         | 0.3         | 0.3        | 0.4                                     | 0.3                   | 1.5                       | 1.3                              |
| Private, not-for-profit                    | 0.7                     | 0.4         | 0.5         | 0.3        | 0.5                                     | 0.5                   | 1.9                       | 1.6                              |
| Private, for-profit                        | 4.4                     | 2.4         | 6.2         | 3.1        | 1.9                                     | 3.0                   | 8.8                       | 6.1                              |
| 2-year                                     |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Public                                     | 1.7                     | 1.4         | 1.3         | 0.0        | 1.2                                     | 1.0                   | 1.7                       | 1.8                              |
| Private, not-for-profit                    | 4.2                     | 3.3         | 3.8         | 1.5        | 5.0                                     | 2.6                   | 4.1                       | 3.7                              |
| Private, for-profit                        | 3.3                     | 3.4         | 3.0         | 0.0        | 3.7                                     | 2.1                   | 3.4                       | 2.5                              |
| Less-than-2-year                           |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Public                                     | 7.9                     | 7.7         | 0.4         | 0.0        | 8.4                                     | 1.7                   | 3.0                       | 7.8                              |
| Private, for-profit                        | 3.2                     | 3.3         | 0.6         | 0.0        | 3.5                                     | 1.4                   | 1.2                       | 4.0                              |
| Level of first institution                 |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| 4-year                                     | 0.4                     | 0.2         | 0.3         | 0.2        | 0.3                                     | 0.2                   | 1.2                       | 1.0                              |
| 2-year                                     | 1.6                     | 1.3         | 1.2         | 0.0        | 1.2                                     | 0.9                   | 1.6                       | 1.6                              |
| Less-than-2-year                           | 3.0                     | 3.0         | 0.5         | 0.0        | 3.2                                     | 1.2                   | 1.1                       | 3.5                              |
| Control of first institution               |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Public                                     | 1.1                     | 0.9         | 0.8         | 0.1        | 0.8                                     | 0.7                   | 1.3                       | 1.2                              |
| Private, not-for-profit                    | 0.8                     | 0.5         | 0.6         | 0.3        | 0.6                                     | 0.5                   | 1.9                       | 1.6                              |
| Private, for-profit                        | 2.4                     | 2.7         | 1.2         | 0.1        | 2.7                                     | 1.2                   | 1.4                       | 2.7                              |
| Degree program at first institution        |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| Certificate                                | 2.9                     | 2.9         | 0.6         | 0.0        | 2.9                                     | 1.1                   | 1.9                       | 3.0                              |
| Associate's degree                         | 1.4                     | 0.5         | 1.4         | 0.0        | 0.5                                     | 1.1                   | 1.7                       | 1.7                              |
| Bachelor's degree                          | 0.3                     | 0.2         | 0.2         | 0.2        | 0.2                                     | 0.2                   | 1.0                       | 1.0                              |
| Degree goal at first institution           |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| None                                       | 1.6                     | 1.2         | 1.1         | 0.1        | 1.3                                     | 0.9                   | 2.9                       | 2.9                              |
| Certificate                                | 3.4                     | 3.4         | 0.7         | 0.0        | 3.2                                     | 1.4                   | 1.9                       | 3.4                              |
| Associate's degree                         | 2.0                     | 0.9         | 2.0         | 0.1        | 0.9                                     | 1.7                   | 2.4                       | 2.4                              |
| Bachelor's degree or<br>transfer to 4-year | 0.6                     | 0.3         | 0.5         | 0.2        | 0.4                                     | 0.5                   | 1.3                       | 1.1                              |
| First sub-baccalaureate degree attained    |                         |             |             |            |   |                       |                           |                                  |
| None                                       | 0.0                     | †           | †           | †          | †                                       | †                     | 1.1                       | 1.1                              |
| Certificate                                | †                       | 0.8         | 0.7         | 0.3        | 2.4                                     | 2.4                   | †                         | †                                |
| Associate's degree                         | †                       | 0.0         | 0.7         | 0.7        | 3.8                                     | 3.8                   | †                         | †                                |

†Not applicable.

NOTE: Details may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995–96 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:96/98).

In addition to tables, the DAS will also produce a correlation matrix of selected variables to be used for linear regression models. Included in the output with the correlation matrix are the design effects (DEFTs) for each variable in the matrix. Since statistical procedures generally compute regression coefficients based on simple random sample assumptions, the standard errors must be adjusted with the design effects to take into account the BPS:98 stratified sampling method.

The DAS can be accessed electronically at [www.nces.ed.gov/DAS](http://www.nces.ed.gov/DAS). For more information about BPS:98 Data Analysis System, contact:

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## Statistical Procedures

### *Differences Between Means*

The descriptive comparisons were tested in this report using Student's  $t$  statistic. Differences between estimates are tested against the probability of a Type I error,<sup>42</sup> or significance level. The significance levels were determined by calculating the Student's  $t$  values for the differences between each pair of means or proportions and comparing these with published tables of significance levels for two-tailed hypothesis testing.

Student's  $t$  values may be computed to test the difference between estimates with the following formula:

$$t = \frac{E_1 - E_2}{\sqrt{se_1^2 + se_2^2}} \quad (1)$$

where  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are the estimates to be compared and  $se_1$  and  $se_2$  are their corresponding standard errors. This formula is valid only for independent estimates. When estimates are not independent, a covariance term must be added to the formula:

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<sup>42</sup>A Type I error occurs when one concludes that a difference observed in a sample reflects a true difference in the population from which the sample was drawn, when no such difference is present.

$$\frac{E_1 - E_2}{\sqrt{se_1^2 + se_2^2 - 2(r)se_1 se_2}} \quad (2)$$

where  $r$  is the correlation between the two estimates.<sup>43</sup> This formula is used when comparing two percentages from a distribution that adds to 100. If the comparison is between the mean of a subgroup and the mean of the total group, the following formula is used:

$$\frac{E_{sub} - E_{tot}}{\sqrt{se_{sub}^2 + se_{tot}^2 - 2p se_{sub}^2}} \quad (3)$$

where  $p$  is the proportion of the total group contained in the subgroup.<sup>44</sup> The estimates, standard errors, and correlations can all be obtained from the DAS.

There are hazards in reporting statistical tests for each comparison. First, comparisons based on large  $t$  statistics may appear to merit special attention. This can be misleading since the magnitude of the  $t$  statistic is related not only to the observed differences in means or percentages but also to the number of students in the specific categories used for comparison. Hence, a small difference compared across a large number of students would produce a large  $t$  statistic.

A second hazard in reporting statistical tests for each comparison occurs when making multiple comparisons among categories of an independent variable. For example, when making paired comparisons among different levels of income, the probability of a Type I error for these comparisons taken as a group is larger than the probability for a single comparison. When more than one difference between groups of related characteristics or “families” are tested for statistical significance, one must apply a standard that assures a level of significance for all of those comparisons taken together.

Comparisons were made in this report only when  $p \leq .05/k$  for a particular pairwise comparison, where that comparison was one of  $k$  tests within a family. This guarantees both that the individual comparison would have  $p \leq .05$  and that for  $k$  comparisons within a family of possible comparisons, the significance level for all the comparisons will sum to  $p \leq .05$ .<sup>45</sup>

For example, in a comparison of the percentages of males and females who enrolled in postsecondary education, only one comparison is possible (males versus females). In this family,

<sup>43</sup>U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *A Note from the Chief Statistician*, no. 2, 1993.

<sup>44</sup>Ibid.

<sup>45</sup>The standard that  $p \leq .05/k$  for each comparison is more stringent than the criterion that the significance level of the comparisons should sum to  $p \leq .05$ . For tables showing the  $t$  statistic required to ensure that  $p \leq .05/k$  for a particular family size and degrees of freedom, see Olive Jean Dunn, “Multiple Comparisons Among Means,” *Journal of the American Statistical Association* 56 (1961): 52–64.

$k=1$ , and the comparison can be evaluated without adjusting the significance level. When students are divided into five racial–ethnic groups and all possible comparisons are made, then  $k=10$  and the significance level of each test must be  $p \leq .05/10$ , or  $p \leq .005$ . The formula for calculating family size ( $k$ ) is as follows:

$$k = \frac{j(j-1)}{2} \quad (4)$$

where  $j$  is the number of categories for the variable being tested. In the case of race–ethnicity, there are five racial–ethnic groups (American Indian/Alaskan Native; Asian/Pacific Islander; black, non-Hispanic; Hispanic; and white, non-Hispanic), so substituting 5 for  $j$  in equation 4,

$$k = \frac{5(5-1)}{2} = 10$$